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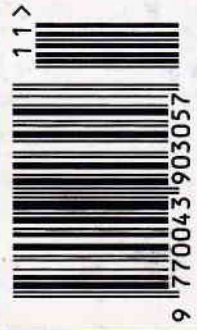

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Thorn in the side

Maradona is back with Boca Juniors. But his antics continue to cause confusion and controversy wherever he goes. Keir Radnedge in Seoul witnesses the return of a fallen idol

DIEGO ARMANDO MARADONA spoke five words when he telephoned his wife, Claudia, on the day he was banished from the World Cup in the United States last year: "They've cut off my legs."

Maradona now has those legs back – having proved the point in the Olympic Stadium here in the capital of South Korea on Saturday, September 30.

But some things about Argentina's greatest footballer of the modern era appear eternal. He remains, for example, a chip on the shoulder personified. His status as the most gifted footballer of his generation has fed his paranoia rather than his grace. Even his comeback match was shrouded in confusion and controversy.

Now almost 35, Maradona retains an unequalled talent for upsetting not merely individuals but entire cities and nations. His Hand of God goal, nine years ago against England at the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, was merely a sample of the havoc he has wreaked in a 19-year career.

On the day which marked the end of his 15-month ban for failing a dope test at the 1994 World Cup finals, he revealed a gold stripe through his hair in honour of his return to the blue and gold hoops of Boca Juniors as the Argentinian club faced up to South Korea in front of a 70,000 sell-out crowd and millions via worldwide television.

Boca are, of course, one of the two great clubs of Argentina, along with River Plate, and they were welcoming Maradona back for his first game since he inspired them to triumph in the 1981 championship in Argentina. The club are the same, even the coach – Silvio Marzolini – is the same. But Maradona has changed.

In 1981 he was the tousled-haired wonderboy with magic in his feet and the cheek of the devil in his eyes. The magic remains but the cheek no longer entrances.

The Koreans were not amused. Their determination to bring the World Cup finals to Korea in 2002 had included investing $1.75million – largely provided by national television company KSI – in bringing the Maradona circus to town.

On the face of it, what better way to concentrate the attention of world football on Korea – a day after formal confirmation to FIFA of their bid for 2002 – than to enrol Maradona in the exercise?

Trouble was, Maradona has not read the script. When he agreed to spend 10 days in Korea leading up to the match the excited Koreans organised a detailed programme of events. He would visit a Hyundai car plant, he would give a coaching demonstration to 3,000 children, he would attend fashionable functions and be photographed with the great and the good.

Nothing was formally signed and sealed but, in the way of these matters in this part of the world, it was considered understood.

Not by Maradona. He did not turn up for the industrialists, for the politicians or – worse of all – for the children. Nor was there anything much by way of apology to his affronted hosts. Maradona told me: "I came here to prepare for my comeback. Football has been my life and is my priority. I wanted to train in peace. I have been away too long. Doesn't anyone understand what this means to me? I had signed only to play for Boca. Not to take part in a Korean folk festival."

Herein lies the key. After a career which has scaled the World Cup-winning heights and twice plumbed the dope-test-ban depths, Maradona's greatest pleasure remains playing the game. At an age where most other footballers are developing their promotional businesses or media contracts, Maradona just wants to kick a ball around.

He is still, at heart, the street urchin and football juggler once captured on a memorable piece of film by a lucky cameraman in the back streets of Buenos Aires.

Diego Armando, then 11, has never really grown up to come to terms with the demands of his fame. He stalked out on Barcelona and Spain in 1984, just as Terry Venables arrived, because he couldn't stand the kicking he was receiving on the pitch and the kicking he was receiving from the media, who pursued him relentlessly through the nightclubs on the Ramblas.

Napoli, that most South American of European cities, was home from home for five years. Twice Maradona inspired them to win the Italian championship. After that, he was forgiven everything including a paternity suit and fraternising openly with bosses of the Camorra (the local mafia) at family parties.

His body paid a heavy price – punished by defenders' brutality on the pitch and the high life off it. Napoli had to pump him with cortizone to keep him playing. By the end, he was barely able to train and the other players saw him only on matchdays. ***(continued overleaf)***

"I came here to prepare for my comeback. I have been away for too long . .

I had signed only to play for Boca. Not to take part in a Korean folk festival"

Not for Maradona the *ritiros*, the days locked away in hotels and training camps.

On one famous occasion, Maradona failed to turn up when the team flew to Moscow for a European clash with Spartak. Instead, on the morning of the game he flew in by chartered plane.

The Manchester United and Liverpools of this world spend hours battling with phone and fax when they play in Russia to obtain grudging permission for even the most awkward of flight arrangements. But not Maradona. His superstar reputation cut through red tape just as he skipped through England's defence for his wonderful second goal in *that* game in Mexico City.

Perhaps Maradona believed he had become untouchable.

The 1990 World Cup was the beginning of the end. Maradona did not even wait to receive his loser's medal after the gloomy Final defeat by West Germany. With tears of disbelief coursing down his cheeks, he bolted for the dressing room invoking curses on "the FIFA mafia" – one of the favourite targets for his paranoia.

Since then it has been downhill all the way. He failed a dope test for cocaine and was banned from Italian – and world – football for 15 months.

He was caught in a cocaine den in a drugs bust in Buenos Aires. After detoxification he attempted a comeback in Spain with Sevilla – who grew so disenchanted they set a private detective to follow him out at nights and used the subsequent report as an excuse to sack him without a peseta of a pay-off.

Last year's comeback, at the 1994 World Cup, ended in another dope test which picked up the ephedrine derivatives he had used to bring his weight down. The result: a further 15-month ban, another verbal assault on FIFA president Joao Havelange, two brief, stormy spells coaching undistinguished Argentinian teams, an airgun incident outside his home for which he awaits sentence . . . and now another comeback.

Maradona wants to play Peter Pan. He wants time to stand still. He underwent cosmetic surgery to thin down his jowls – "because my wife likes me to keep looking young".

He is still advised by the controversial dietician, Daniel Cerrini, whose concoctions brought World Cup disgrace. And he still bites the hand of those who feed him.

The Koreans who brought Maradona here to publicise their World Cup bid soon discovered the double-edged sword. He provided publicity all right. But much of it was the sort to stir public suspicion about the value of 'acquiring' the World Cup finals in 2002.

In the end, the Koreans – led by FIFA vice-president Chung Moon-Jong – got away with their gamble on Maradona. Only just, but by enough not to dissuade Chung of the importance of currying favour with Argentina. He and Argentinian president Carlos Menem were out on the golf course the next morning, along with the president of the Samsung electronic company. No prizes for guessing that World Cup 2002 figured significantly in their conversation as they walked the fairways.

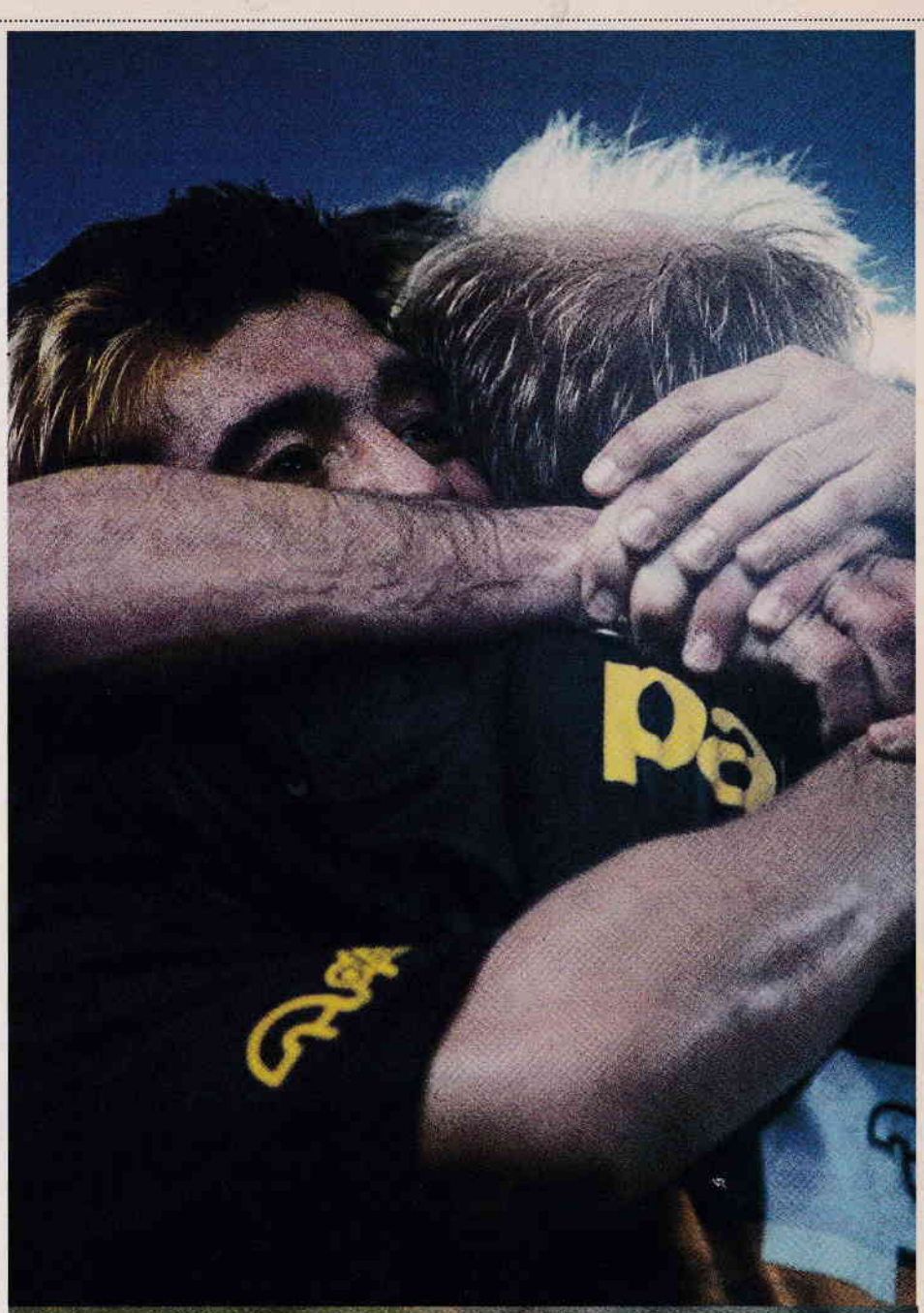
Maradona, it must be said, does appear to get on tolerably well with Menem, who was in Korea to watch the show, negotiate a trade deal and join Korea's President Kim Young-Sam in kicking off the match.

Korea's bid to win hosting rights to the 2002 World Cup is a trade deal of another dimension. The Bid Committee estimates that victory over Japan in this race, to be decided next June by FIFA, will be worth a $7.5billion increase in export earnings.

By comparison the money spent to bring Maradona and his promotional circus to town was a mere drop in the ocean.

Not that any self-respecting circus might welcome the comparison. It was not only that Maradona ignored the local people. In training he harangued his team-mates incessantly. In the privacy of their hotels he astonished staff with food-throwing tantrums and shouting matches.

Maradona remains a law unto himself.



Back with Boca . . . Maradona in typical pose and (*above*) celebratting with team-mate Mac Allister

THE MATCH

DIEGO MARADONA is football's ultimate anti-hero. At 34 he carries too many years and too much weight to be the great player again.

Long before the end of the first half of the match between South Korea and Boca Juniors he was puffing and blowing. He struggled to raise a trot, never mind a sprint.

In the second half he vanished for a full 20 minutes.

And yet . . . his touch, his timing, his innate sense of the flow of a match, of the positioning of his team-mates, the sensivity with which his left foot caresses the ball – all remain a joy to behold and cannot help but raise those twin emotions of wonder and envy in the heart of anyone who has ever played the game at any level.

Maradona still possesses such awesome natural talent that the proper reaction to his failings as a sportsman should perhaps be more of sorrow than anger. Perhaps, like John McEnroe with tennis, the inner rage was an essential factor in his genius.

The easy comparison, in a British context, would be with George Best. Except that Maradona was, has been, much, much greater. And so, inevitably, has been his fall.

Quite what Boca will do with Maradona remains a mystery. They are, for all their half a dozen internationals, their great history and pretensions, a mediocre team from the Argentinian mid-table.

Coach Silvio Marzolini says he has made no tactical changes to accommodate Maradona: "Diego just gives us more creative opportunities." One wonders whether the rest of the team will accept such a status quo when they discover, week in, week out, that they have to run and work that much harder to carry the man from soccer's shadowlands.

If Boca's intention is to keep Maradona under control long enough to tour the world and make some money – as Brazil's Santos once exploited Pele – then that is possible. If they expect to compete for serious prizes, then they are deluding themselves, their Porteno fans back in Buenos Aires and football fellow travellers such as Claudio Caniggia and Kiki Gonzalez.

These two were Maradona's closest working partners once the fireworks, the pop groups, the balloons and the silk-clad cheerleaders had been cleared away and the match had begun.

It was 12 minutes before Maradona produced anything more than the occasional stabbed pass or shoulder shrug. In space on the right, a defender at his back, he swerved 180 degrees, maintaining possession and curled in a far-post cross which the unmarked Caniggia headed softly and wastefully into goalkeeper Kim Byung Ge's arms.

Five more minutes and Maradona, shaping to volley an angled shot, produced instead the most delicate lob over a defender's head and Kim leapt to his left to punch away the ensuing shot from Carlos Mac Allister.

All Maradona's most dangerous work was accomplished in a channel across on the right. The Koreans ignored the signs to their cost. A vintage backheel from Maradona led to a corner which he placed deftly on to Mac Allister's head at the near post: one-nil.

Korea equalised through their outstanding playmaker, Ha Seok Ju, almost on the stroke on the half-time. Encouraged, they dominated possession in the second half. Maradona, after a brief flurry of creative activity, sat back in disgust once a gloriously deceptive pass had provided an opening which Caniggia squandered.

In the 84th minute Maradona's first shot of the match flew safely over the bar. It was also his last shot. Three minutes later he was substituted to a smattering of polite applause. In his absence, with huge irony, Boca won the game with a 40-yard lob, on the breakaway, from Sergio Martinez Alzuri.

The electronic scoreboard, in defiance of the fact, was still showing the score at 1-1 when the referee blew for time and Maradona was engulfed by the media mob.

In due course, Maradona reappeared to trot out the standard complaints about the manner in which the world ill-treats him.

When asked about his cancelled appointments, Maradona opened his eyes wide in innocent confusion. He said: "I signed a contract only to play football for Boca. Anyone who says anything else is a liar."

Korean government, sports and FA officials blinked in disbelief as Maradona, warming to his theme, thanked the Korean people "for believing in me and not the nobodies".

He had played the match not as revenge against his FIFA president Joao Havelange, but for himself and his family.

No, he didn't feel his 15-month suspension was persecution by FIFA because, "after all, I've been persecuted by everyone over the years."

As a cameraman at the back of the room tripped on his way out, so Maradona stood, shrugged and clapped his hands imperiously to demand silence – "because I am trying to conduct a serious press conference."

But, one month short of his 35th birthday, Maradona can no longer expect to conduct the world game.

Seoul boy . . . Boca's Claudio Caniggia in action against Korea

SOUTH KOREA 1 BOCA JUNIORS 2

South Korea: Kim Byung Ge – Kim Pan Keun, Huh Ki Tae, Hong Myung Bo (Kim Tae Young 60), Shin Hong Gi – Ko Jeong Woon, Roh Sang Rae, Kim Hyn Seok (Sin Tae Yong 62), Choi Young Il – Hwang Sun Hong, Ha Seok Ju.

Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya – Vivas, Gamboa, Medero, Mac Allister (Arruabarrena 67) – Giunta (Pico 82), Carrizo, Gonzalez – Alzuri, Caniggia, Maradona (Marcico 87).

Scorers: Mac Allister, 0-1; Ha Seok Ju, 1-1; Alzuri, 1-2.

Bidding for glory

BOTH South Korea and Japan have promised to hand over their tournament profits for the development of the world game if either is nominated next June 1 to host the 2002 World Cup finals.

This was the striking similarity between the two formal bid documents which were handed in on successive days to FIFA in Zurich, just before the expiry of the September 30 deadline for applications.

For Japan, the formal ceremony in FIFA House, presided over by general secretary Sepp Blatter, was the culmination of more than 30 years of dreaming – ever since Sir Stanley Rous told his hosts at the Tokyo Olympics: "One day you could be holding the World Cup here."

For the Koreans, their own hand-over – again to Blatter – was the end of the first stage of a busily aggressive campaign to try to make up time on the Japanese. The Koreans estimate the tournament profits which will accrue to them at $78million. They would distribute the money on a ratio basis between FIFA's six regional confederations.

The Japanese did not put a figure to their pledge but their calculations cannot be much different. In their case, Japan would create a foundation fund to be administered by FIFA. The subtle differences between the proposed administration of the cash did not go unnoticed.

The Korean proposal – perhaps by fortunate accident – addressed the European desire to see power devolved from FIFA back to the regional confederations. It is no secret that the Koreans consider Europe the key region which holds the balance of power when FIFA's executive committee choose for 2002.

Against Korean pragmatism, Japan are offering FIFA and the world game a futuristic finals package to catch the mood of the 21st century. Chief among the promised innovations is the 'virtual reality' stadium in which vast screens would be set up for fans to see matches in other cities in a three-dimensional format.

● Exclusive next month – how the World Cup will tame the Yen!

ARGENTINA – THE REACTION

THE reaction of the press in Argentina to Maradona's return was suitably ecstatic.

'Maradona demonstrated that within the dominions of a football pitch he is still the great helmsman. Within the whirlpool of hustling, of the football of battlerrs and tough guys, he is an oasis of clarity and technical refinement,' wrote *La Nation*, a usually-conservative daily. 'This more mature Maradona is concious of his limitations. He regulated his energies so that his veteran status did not present his physique with an early bill.'

'Maradona indulged himself and has got more to give,' claimed *Clarin*, Argentina's biggest paper, in a special eight-page supplement. 'The marking by the polite Koreans showed more oriental reverance than aggresive chasing.'

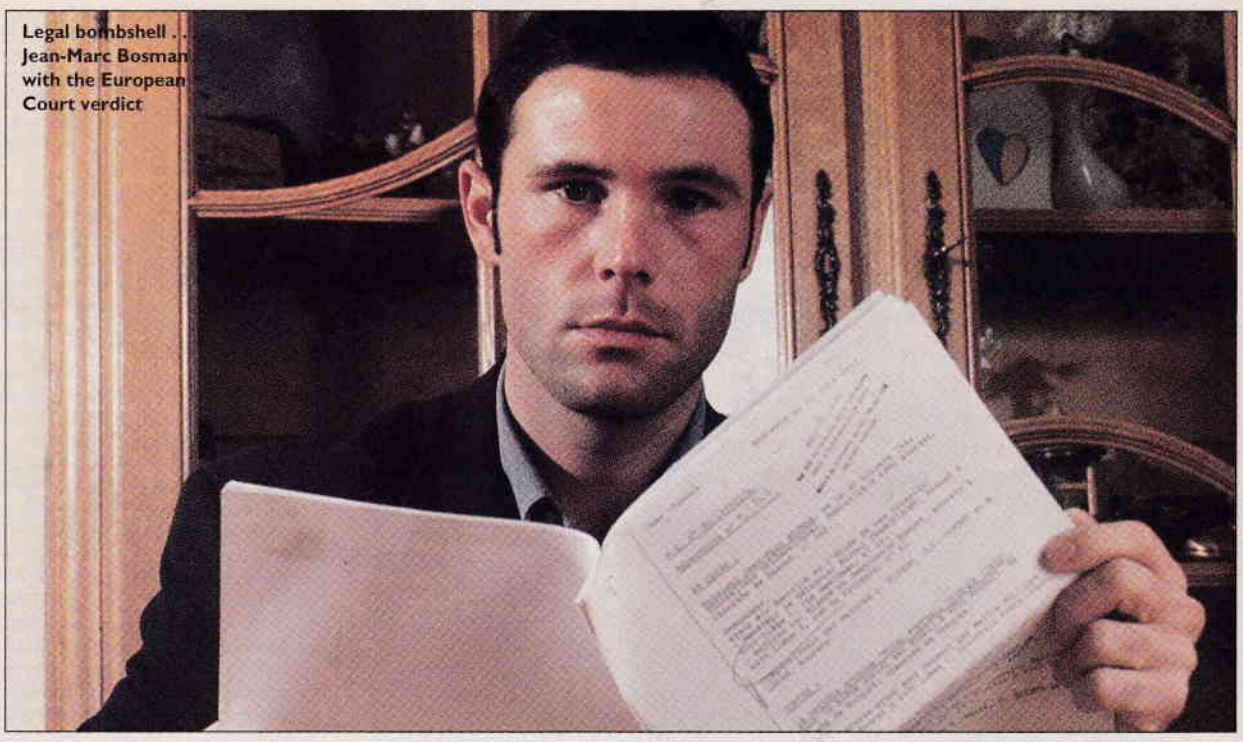
'Time cannot extinguish Maradona's genius,' was the view of *La Prensa*.

For *Pagin 12*, the country's main left-wing paper, Maradona's was the greatest of a year of comebacks. 'He is a victim like Seles, he is guilty like Tyson and he is a business like Jordan. On top of that, although they don't know it in the United States, he represents the most popular sport on earth.'

Keir Radnedge

COMMENTARY

The good, the bad . . .



Legal bombshell . . . Jean-Marc Bosman with the European Court verdict

and the utterly ludicrous

Interim verdict in Bosman case threatens more problems than it solves

FEW footballers have aroused such extreme emotions as Jean-Marc Bosman. That's astonishing, considering that nobody outside the most loyal of Belgian football fans has ever seen him play. I haven't.

The opinion he gained, however, from Carl-Otto Lenz, advocate general of the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, threatens . . . well, what does it threaten?

Here is the nub of the immediate problem. Nobody knows. First, because the full court must take The Decision in December or maybe in January. Secondly, because nobody can read the future with any certainty. Thirdly, because football's initial reaction – from headless chicken panic on the one side to ostrich head-burying on the other – served only to further confuse the issues.

Let's try to unravel them, starting in 1990 when Bosman, whose contract with an FC Liege club now defunct in its old form, had expired. He wanted to join Dunkerque in France but Liege set an arbitrary transfer fee of £250,000 to which Dunkerque objected. That was why Bosman went to court, initially in Belgium, then in Europe, claiming restraint of trade.

He did NOT go to court in the first instance out of concern for free movement of foreign players within the European Community. This was an issue which was grafted in later because the Bosman case raised the widest issue of the rights of professional footballers as workers within the EU. It was not central to Bosman's basic complaint and, as such, may not yet be as close to a resolution as some of the big clubs believe.

The starting point for consideration of the Bosman case must not be irrational fears of what the future may or may not bring but Lenz's 124-page report. The core of the opinion he has passed on up to the full court of 18 judges is contained in these sentences:

- 1. Article 48 of the European Community Treaty of Rome is to be interpreted as prohibiting (a) a football club from being able to demand and receive payment of a sum of money when one of its players whose contract has expired is engaged by another club; (b) the access of players who are nationals of another member state to the club competitions organised by the national and international associations from being restricted.
- 2. The transfer system hitherto used can also not be justified by the argument that it is necessary for maintaining the financial and sporting balance as small clubs would otherwise have fear for their income and hence their existence.
- 3. The abolition of transfer fees cannot be regarded as an expropriation since, despite contrary assertions in the proceedings, players can ultimately not be regarded as merchandise.
- 4. The advocate general proposes a redistribution of a percentage of clubs' income, as is already practised today by UEFA in the Champions League, for example.
- 5. The rules on foreign players are clearly discrimination by reason of nationality, which infringes Article 48 and cannot be justified. The advocate general does not share the fear that abolition of the rules could lead to teams consisting entirely of foreigners and thus affect the popularity of professional football.
- 6. He also regards as unfounded the concern that clubs' efforts to promote young players would be reduced. In his opinion, the clubs have a greater interest in providing players for the national teams, so that they will continue to develop their own players as before. Those players could, however, only benefit from their experience of playing with foreign players.

Got all that? If so, you will surely come to a two-pronged general conclusion.

The first point is that, clearly, it is wrong for clubs or federations to prevent a footballer – like any othe worker within the EU – taking his skills and talents away to the service of another employer only when he has fulfilled his contract.

It should not have needed the European Court to have told football that. UEFA and the federations should have got real a long time ago. If they are no in a mess – and Bosman is demanding $1million in damages which does not appear excessive – then they have only themselves to blame. No good

bleating about it. When representatives of the Belgian Federation and UEFA suggested an out-of-court settlement they should, simultaneously, have set an urgent legal revision under way. They did not. I repeat, they have only themselves to blame.

The second general point is that the advocate general, with all due respect to his status within the legal profession, appears utterly ignorant of the way in which football, perfectly legally, administers its own affairs and runs its business. It is this ignorance which represents a greater danger to the game than defeat over 'merely' Bosman.

The final judgment of the European Court of Justice will make fascinating reading because Lenz's words raise more questions than they answer.

Let's take it one step at a time:

1. *A worker/player should not be held against his will at the end of his contract.* Agreed. Freedom of movement of workers within the EC must apply to footballers as well as anyone else? Agreed. BUT . . . such freedom does exist now. For example, Milan have taken their foreign contingent to six by signing the French teenager, Patrick Viera, from Cannes. He will be employed legally and properly by Milan. The present foreign player restrictions are NOT in the realms of employment but in the narrow area of team selection. Since when has any court been able to dictate a team line-up or, more generally, the comparative status of employees within the same company?

2. *The transfer system cannot be justified as a means for subventing small clubs.* Agreed with one proviso – a transfer system WHICH RESTRICTS LEGAL RIGHTS cannot be justified under the law. BUT a transfer system which operates within the law – if the appropriate formula can be found – can exist for many reasons, not the least of them being economic health through every level of the game.

'Let's hope that the eighteen judges of the full Court can make sense of Lenz, providing Bosman with the justice he seeks . . . and football with a future which works'

3. *Abolition of transfer fees is not an appropriation since players are people and not property.* Agreed – Manchester United, for example, do not count players as balance sheet assets and other clubs will follow that example. BUT . . . here's a major snag: Lenz now appears to be discussing the abolition of transfers fees in their entirety, not just at the end of contracts.

4. *National federations should distribute income throughout their domestic games in the manner in which UEFA hands out Champions League largesse.* Utterly ludicrous. Lenz does not appear to understand the perfectly legal and proper financial structures of football business OR the way in which the Champions League is set up. UEFA gathers ALL television and ALL sponsorship income into a central fund. The profits are then split in varying amounts between the competing clubs, national associations, clubs eliminated in early stages in all three European competitions and to support refereeing and minor tournament expenses. If Lenz's recommendations were to be enforced then it would change clubs' business and legal status. In England for example, the FA would be required to be the sole sponsorship rights holder for every competition and every club in the realms of both television and sponsorship. The clubs would be robbed of their legal rights to operate as free and independent businesses. They would become mere franchises – and the legal ramifications would tear the European game into tiny shreds. It would, of course, create more business for M'Learned Friend and the European Court . . .

5. *That foreign player restrictions should be abolished.* Open to argument and we dealt with this in commenting on paragraph 2. There is a distinct difference between EMPLOYING foreign players – on which there are virtually no restrictions – and SELECTING foreign players for the team. Only 11 players can play. Should a domestic national go to court and complain, under race relations laws, that he is being left out of the team to the unfair advantage of a foreign player? One real minefield. Lenz, in a sweeping generalisation which did not address properly an issue WHICH WAS NOT CENTRAL TO THE ORIGINAL CASE, has muddied the waters still further. The full Court may have trouble with this one.

6. *Clubs have a greater interest in providing players for the national teams.* More nonsense. Let's face it: the big clubs have NO INTEREST in providing players for the national team. They find national team calls a nuisance at the least and, at worst when a player returns injured, costly and disruptive. Small clubs have an interest in providing players for the national team because that raises their transfer value. But if transfer fees are abolished, then what's the point? Again, the judgment flies airily and hopelessly in the face of reality.

Reaction has been widely varied. Gordon Taylor, leader of both the English players' union and FIFpro (of which Diego Maradona, apparently, has not heard), talked of a "significant day for the future of international football." Representatives of lower division clubs in England and Germany talked of apocalypse tomorrow while David Will, the Scottish lawyer who is the home countries' FIFA vice-president, both promised and urged a massive lobby of parliamentary and legal institutions.

Perhaps most interestingly, Will suggested an opt-out clause to deal with the special case of sport being written into the Treaty of Rome when its provisions come up for consideration next year. Ah, a breath of commonsense. Here, perhaps, lies the only reasonable way ahead.

Bosman has suffered enormously through his case. He lost his employment prospects because nobody would go near him with another contract, and his marriage collapsed. Yet the general reaction on behalf of players was that his provisional victory was good news NOT for journeyman players of his ilk but for the small minority of superstars who would be able to demand even better financial terms than they enjoy now.

As Manchester United's chief executive Martin Edwards said: "According to this, we could lose a star player for nothing – but we could sign another one for nothing." That would, of course, put players in the financial driving seat. No wonder FIFA gave such a warm welcome to the newly-created international agents' federation. Anything which brings agents within some sort of control is now more important than ever.

Bosman's lawyer, Jean-Louis Dupont, says: "We feel good. It has been a long fight. But we also have to be very cautious. This is an important step but it is not the final judgment."

Just so. Let's be thankful for small mercies – and hope that the 18 judges of the full Court can make sense of Lenz, providing Bosman with the justice he seeks . . . and football with a future which works.

The Pacific, power and protest

I'M RIGHT with the players in Italy and those of Norway and Switzerland who have protested, at matches, against French nuclear testing in the Pacific.

I'll bet FIFA and UEFA would have been upset, too, if those tests had been scheduled rather nearer Switzerland. But they weren't. They were held somewhere down in Oceania. For those who don't know, this is a sadly ill-considered region of the FIFA empire which matters only at World Cup time when a South American or European team must beat an Oceania outfit to secure a ticket to the finals.

Footballers are expected, by their clubs and their countries, to be mute commercial billboards – commercially exploited through sponsors' names and logos on their shirts and tracksuits.

I find it highly commendable that some players – as thinking human beings – wanted to use their fame and stadia presence to comment on a rather more important issue than which soap powder or supermarket their fans use.

Nobody complained when German clubs all swapped their shirt-ads one weekend for anti-racist campaign slogans. So what makes nuclear bombs such a sensitive subject that disciplinary action should be threatened by the international bodies and dire warnings issued against perpetrators of any further protests?

Could it really be that the power game priority is to cuddle up, politically, to Jacques Chirac because France host the next World Cup?

And won't it be interesting to see how many footballers' unions – so quick to acclaim the prospect of the European Court offering players the right to print money – leap to their members' defence over the issues of free speech, human rights and political dignity?

Don't hold your breath.

Bremen's Basler dives in vain

PLAYING the dying swan can have its advantages – but not in the long term. When Werder Bremen's Mario Basler was sent flying by a malicious defender in their German Cup second round visit to Nurnberg, he rolled over half a dozen times, lay as if dead and was carted away on a stretcher.

Once over the touchline, however, he sat up, shook himself, was helped to his feet, signalled to the referee and stepped back onto the pitch.

Here was the catch. Nurnberg, with no Basler to cover on the left, had committed their defensive forces to the centre and right-hand sides of the pitch. It only took one quick pass from Bremen's Heiko Scholz to find the revived Basler running free in wide open spaces.

He duly strode forward, drew the goalkeeper and chipped beautifully for the goal which handed the 1994 Cup-winners a 2-0 lead at half-time.

However Nurnberg, who had beaten Hansa Rostock in the first round, equalised with two goals in the first 15 minutes of the second half from American Joe-Max Moore and Markus Kurth. Oliver Straube scored Nurnberg's winner one minute from time and all Basler's sharp-witted opportunism was in vain.

It was a revival which thrilled the 36,000 crowd who had turned out in the Frankelstadion on a wet Tuesday holiday afternoon. Their loyalty had earned it.

Who says there's no justice in football?

Send on the clowns

COMPILED BY GAVIN HAMILTON & JOHN KELLY

WHAT with Rene Higuita's scorpion kick and Peter Schmeichel's last-minute headed goal against Rotor Volgograd, goalkeepers are certainly doing their utmost to preserve their image as a few inches short of a crossbar.

Injuries recently forced West Ham's reserve keeper Les Sealey ***(pictured below)*** to go on as an emergency striker against Arsenal.

In Belgium, Philippe Van De Walle has gone one better. He is Germinal Ekeren's leading marksman. Not content with three goals from penalties, he was so incensed at conceding an own goal in the game against Cercle Bruges that he dashed upfield and shot a 90th-minute equaliser in a 2-2 draw.

Success in the Intertoto Cup means France had eight teams – Nantes, Bordeaux, Strasbourg, Lens, Monaco, Lyon, Paris SG and Auxerre – competing in Europe this season. Only Italy has ever matched this – a fact celebrated by *France Football* magazine's recent cover.

Badge Business

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

QUITE why Tottenham have a cockerel on top of a ball as their mascot is a bit of a mystery, but it may have something to do with William Shakespeare!

The club took the name Hotspur from a Shakespearean character, Sir Harry Hotspur, so-called for often pricking his horse with spurs. Spurs were also attached to the legs of fighting cocks, so the two images may have been linked to identify the fledgling club.

There is also a curious rumour concerning the giant cockerel and ball which used to stand on top of the old East stand: the ball is said to contain a time capsule from the early 1900s.

Finally, any Tottenham souvenir you buy which does not have the cockerel's spurs on its legs is not the genuine article . . . you have been warned.

THIS is the ESM team of the month, based on votes from journalists at *WORLD SOCCER*, *A Bola* (Portugal), *don balon* (Spain), Kicker (Germany), *La Gazzetta dello Sport* (Italy), *onze mondial* (France), *Sport* (Switzerland) and *Voetbal International* (Holland).

Testing times

TAKING their cue from the Swiss national team *(see page 26)*, players from Italian Serie A clubs ignored a League threat to fine them for their actions and staged protests against French nuclear tests.

Sampdoria players warmed up wearing T-shirts carrying the Greenpeace message 'No to Nuclear Tests' ***(pictured left)***. "If necessary I will willingly pay any fine," said Sampdoria's French international Christian Karembeu, who hails from the French Pacific territory of New Caledonia. "Nature belongs to everybody, it's free and cannot be bought."

Sampdoria captain Roberto Mancini and his team-mates also unfurled a banner reading 'Samp for Peace' in the middle of the pitch to the applause of fans in the Luigi Ferraris stadium.

The protests were not all good-natured, however. Padova's president publicly apologised for an incident at Napoli's San Paolo stadium where a group of fans from the northern club unfurled a banner reading 'Stop the nuclear tests in Mururoa – do them in Naples'.

Norway's Lars Bohinen started the football bandwagon against nuclear testing rolling by refusing to play in a friendly against France.

"I come from the Pacific and I'm happy to have done my bit for my people's protest against the absurd nuclear tests that are destroying our home paradise. Football cannot stay out of these things, all humanity is at stake." – Sampdoria's Christian Karembeu on Sampdoria protests against France's nuclear testing.

Confused? You will be!

The WORLD SOCCER office has been inundated with inquiries regarding the qualification system for Euro '96. UEFA, in its latest newsletter, explained the system in full. So here, in essence, is what it said.

Sixteen teams will compete in Euro '96. Hosts England will be joined by the eight qualifying group winners and the six best group runners-up. The two remaining group runners-up will contest a play-off at Liverpool's Anfield ground on December 13, 1995.

In the event of teams finishing level on points, the following criteria will be used to determine group positions:

1) Number of points in matches between the two teams level on points.

2) Goal difference from the matches between the two teams involved.

3) Greater number of goals scored away from home in matches between the two teams.

4) Results of all the qualifying matches: a) Superior goal difference. b) Greater number of goals scored. c) Greater number of goals scored away from home.

5) Fair play conduct of the teams.

If none of the above produces a result, lots will be drawn!

However, the above criteria only determine who qualifies as winners of the respective groups. To decide the six best runners-up, a different system is used.

The runners-up will be decided by taking into account the results of second-placed teams against teams finishing in first, third and fourth place in each group. Criteria which may be used here are:

1) Number of points in matches in question. 2) Goal difference. 3) Number of goals scored. 4) Number of goals scored away from home. 5) Fair Play conduct.

There. Glad we've got that straight.

Sports

Teenage tearaways

THE VIOLENCE continues – on and off the pitch – in Brazil. Around 100 people were injured and a 16-year-old youth was killed after fighting broke out at the final of a junior tournament featuring the youth teams of Sao Paulo and Palmeiras at the Pacaembu stadium.

When Palmeiras scored the winning goal in sudden death extra time, hundreds of fans invaded the pitch and fought a running battle. Leaders of organised supporters groups – the notorious *Torcidas Organizadas* – were seen taking part.

The *Torcidas* proclaimed their innocence and when Palmeiras and Corinthians met in a local derby, they attempted to use the occasion to show that they can live in peaceful harmony. They walked to the stadium together and donated four tons of food to a campaign against hunger. The spirit of peace did not carry onto the pitch, though. During the game, interrupted by more than 50 fouls, 10 players were booked and two sent off.

Prize for Paulo

PAULO SOUSA, Juventus's Portuguese midfielder, has been picked as one of the three best players in last season's Serie A. In a survey by the Italian weekly *Guerin Sportivo*, Sousa shared the nomination with Italian forwards Gianfranco Zola of Parma and Marco Simone of Milan. Juve coach Marcello Lippi was voted the best coach for the 1994-95 campaign.

Deadly decision

REFEREE Felipe Compinez was stoned to death after awarding a last-minute penalty in a regional competition in Peru. Social Santa scored the winner from the spot, and took the title.

Jubilant Jorginho

BRAZILIAN Jorginho of Kashiwa Antlers topped the poll of fans choosing the players for a 'dream match' between the J.League's foreign and Japanese stars. Jorginho polled 324,567 votes, ahead of his fellow Brazilian and Antlers team-mate Leonardo, on 315,770 votes.

Suicide suspected

ITALIAN police have said they believe footballer Edoardo Bortolotti, 25, who died after falling from a third-floor balcony, had committed suicide. Bortolotti, who played as a defender for Brescia and made four appearances for Italy's Under-21 side, was banned from soccer for 12 months in May 1991 for cocaine use, and was said by his father Giacomo to have been "extremely depressed".

Libero

Libero

COMPILED BY GAVIN HAMILTON & JOHN KELLY

Shirt Tales

JUVENTUS

The 'Old Lady' of Italian football was founded by a group of students in 1897. The club originally chose to play in red shirts, but in 1906, following a visit to England by a club member, they adopted the black and white stripes now famous the world over. The club member had been so impressed with Notts County's strip during his stay in England that he bought a set of shirts to take home with him.

Juve old boy . . . Liam Brady in 1981

TRANSFER TRAIL

Jeroen **BOERE**	F	West Ham	Crystal Palace
Paul **DAVIS**	M	Arsenal	Brentford
Iain **DOWIE**	F	Crystal Palace	West Ham
Derek **FERGUSON**	M	Sunderland	Falkirk
Brad **FRIEDEL**	G	USSF	Galatasaray
Maurizio **GAUDINO**	M	Eintracht Frankfurt	FC America (Mex)
Mark **HATELEY**	F	Rangers	QPR
Pontus **KAMARK**	D	IFK Gothenburg	Leicester City
David **KELLY**	F	Wolves	Sunderland
Stan **LAZARIDIS**	F	West Adelaide	West Ham
Jason **McATEER**	M	Bolton	Liverpool
Patrick **VIEIRA**	M	Cannes	Milan
Johnny **VILSTRUP**	M	Lyngby	Luton Town
John **WILLIAMS**	F	Coventry City	Wycombe

MANAGERS ON THE MOVE

Aime **ANTHEUNIS**	Waregem	out of contract
Ottavio **BIANCHI**	Internazionale	out of contract
Jo **BONFRERE**	out of contract	Nigeria
Zbigniew **BONIEK**	Avellino	out of contract
EDINHO	Flamengo	out of contract
Stephan **ENGELS**	Koln *(caretaker)*	Koln
Gerard **GILI**	out of contract	Marseille
Bo **JOHANSSON**	HJK Helsinki	Denmark
Artur **JORGE**	Benfica	out of contract
Morten **OLSEN**	Koln	out of contract
Corrado **ORRICO**	out of contract	Avellino
Washington **RODRIGUES**	out of contract	Flamengo
Henri **STAMBOULI**	Marseille	out of contract
Luis **SUAREZ**	out of contract	Internazionale
Carlos Alberto **TORRES**	Nigeria	out of contract

● FRENCH midfielder **Patrick Vieira** will join Milan in November, to become the sixth foreign player at the San Siro, after the player and his club Cannes agreed on an earlier transfer to Milan for a fee of about £4million.

● US goalkeeper **Brad Friedel** has joined Turkey's Galatasaray in an £800,000 move from the USSF. He is the fifth foreigner to join Galatasaray this season.

● GERMAN international midfielder **Maurizio Gaudino** has been cleared to join Mexican side FC America on loan from Eintracht Frankfurt.

● **MARK HATELEY** has completed a £1million move to QPR from Glasgow Rangers despite initial fears about a knee injury.

● The DBU has confirmed that **Bo Johansson**, a Swede who has coaching experience in all five Nordic countries, will become Denmark's new coach next year.

LIP SERVICE AWARDS

"It's a challenge I had to accept. History does not remember cowards." – Veteran radio commentator Washington Rodrigues, on his appointment as Flamengo coach.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Not OK for IFK

UEFA have rejected IFK Gothenburg's appeal against the decision to make them play their next European game 125 miles from their Ullevi Stadium after coins were thrown at a linesman during their European Cup preliminary round defeat at Legia Warsaw.

New order in Japan

JAPAN'S professional J.League will adopt a single-series format next year instead of the current two-stage system. The 1996 season will kick off in mid-March and end in November, with one round of matches per week. Each J.League club would play the others twice during the season.

£OOTBALL £INANCIAL

FIFA renegotiates World Cup TV deal

FIFA President Joao Havelange met recently with top TV officials to broadcast fees for the next World Cup finals.

The meeting focused on a revised offer for the exclusive rights to the 1998 finals, said FIFA spokesman Keith Cooper. Under a 1987 contract, the consortium agreed to pay FIFA £75million for the TV rights for the 1998 World Cup in France, up from £65million for the 1994 finals.

However, that deal now has to be revised to reflect the expanded finals format. The finals in France will feature 64 matches – up from 52 games – because the number of participants will be increased to 32 from 24. Cooper declined to say how much the latest offer was worth.

A private German-American consortium said last month it would offer £650million for the international rights of the 2002 World Cup finals.

Soccer Cities PRAGUE

Bob Vaughan on the sad decline of a romantic capital's once-glorious football grounds

PRAGUE has a romance about its elderly football grounds which may not be obvious to the away fan on a steely, cold European Cup night by the railway at Vrsovice.

Spurs supporters can confirm this from their tie with Bohemians, as can St Mirren from their game with Slavia. The two grounds are both sited in Prague 10 and when you go to a Bohemians match in the Czech capital you almost certainly take the tram to the narrow ground known as 'The Dimple' in Vrsovice Street, which could still hold 18,000 but which UEFA is never likely to permit again should Bohemians – also known as the Kangaroos – arise from Division Two.

The nickname comes from an Australian tour in the 1920s and along with Sparta and Slavia, Bohemians later suffered many excesses of Communist rule and name changes over 40 years. Eventually domestic success brought European competition and a UEFA Cup semi-final with Anderlecht in 1983.

Now, however, the club are second class, with a poor ground in need of renovation. The ground's central location leaves little room for extension or improvement even if finance were available.

Currently the club stand 11th in League Two. Gates are modest, often better away, but proximity to the play, no need to queue and inexpensive refreshments mean that crowds continue around the 3,500 mark. For a time Bohemians were the fourth power in Prague soccer, but in the past three years they have been overtaken by Viktoria Zizkov, an older club from Prague 3, founded in 1903.

Czech football's origins were in the last decade of the 19th century. 'Kopana', as the game is called locally, got into its stride following the first game, played beside the River Vltava at Roudnice, north of Prague, between teams made up of scullers and gymnasts.

Within a year or two Sparta and Slavia formed football teams and games were played on the Letna, the exercise ground below the castle and above the centre of town where today the splendidly renovated Sparta Stadium stands ready for European League football.

The ground has staged some historic encounters: the 2-1 defeat of England in 1934, the Mitropa duels of the 1930s and a recent vital win over the Norwegians in European Championship Group 5. A highlight at Sparta this autumn will be the match with Luxembourg, which could put the Czech Republic on the way to a first finals series.

The Sparta ground, like the club, is an institution, currently the fiefdom, and none too popular a one, especially in Prague 10, of Petr Mach, the president, and his cohorts. Until recent years the neighbouring flats afforded residents a splendid free view. Now the all-seater ground, which can hold around 30,000, is closed in.

The reputation of some officials is as low as in the worst of Communist times. A whiff of corruption hangs over from last season. The Public Prosecutor has papers on one of the alleged attempts at bribing referees, but the law will take its time, and Sparta can continue in the UEFA Cup as well as in domestic soccer.

They might meet Slavia in Europe, as well as in the annual two 'Big S Derbies', as their league meetings are called.

Slavia's home is still not suited to the big occasion. Renovation is delayed, partly thanks to an American benefactor's disappearance! Nevertheless when you go to another quarter of Vrsovice to see the Red & Whites, you go to Eden, at one time an old pub next to the ground in Vladivostock Street. Here the club, founded to reflect the virtues of true Slav life, have their home – another in need of cash injection.

Gone are the days of 50,000 crowds to see the legendary goalkeeper Frantisek Planicka and record scorer Pepi Bican in the 1930s and 1940s respectively, the team of the 1950s and more recently Kubik and Knoflicek.

Now Jan Stejskal defends the nets to the sounds of shunting, train departure announcements at the station and the applause of a few thousand. On the second week of September the latest derby attracted 10,036 to Eden.

Last year's Cup-winners Cup representative, Viktoria Zizkov, continue to play on a drab postage-stamp ground, sandwiched between Seifertova Street, some waste land, a factory and flats.

There is one small stand with offices and changing rooms crammed underneath. But the bar is open at nine o'clock on Sunday morning, the pitch is reasonable, and the locals do not want the club to move, even though it is not quite UEFA's idea of what is right and proper – Zizkov had to play their European games elsewhere last season.

Jablonec was a curious alternative and not much better, but there were local reasons for the choice. Zizkov had no wish to play on the Letna, in Vrsovice or at the Strahov stadium where the CMFA (Czech FA) might have ordered them to go.

Like Viktoria's ground, the football stadium on the Strahov complex, high on the western fringes of the city, is rather less romantic. The Communists renamed it Rosticky after one of their number, but it has not been used much for internationals since a very poor attendance for a 2-2 draw against England in 1992. Where to buy a ticket was the biggest problem for fans.

Now it is likely the Letna will be used for internationals and the Rosticky, renovated in the 1970s and the venue for the 80th birthday celebrations, a CSSR v Europe match, will be left to the athletes. This, probably, is a suitable decision. It was never the home of a club side, the rebuilding with a track means little atmosphere, only a fraction of the once 50,000 capacity is now available, and an adjacent arena has housed 250,000 for gymnastic displays.

Football seems out of place up on the Strahov, as it now almost does at the Juliska in Prague 6, the former military district where Dukla built their stadium into a hillside and nearly had it finished by the end of the 40 years of Communism.

Now the club have declined into a modest, technically amateur outfit with, this season, reasonable results in the Regional Division Three. Spectators are few: Dukla can no longer recruit any promising players from the Army. The club of Pluskal and Masopust is going to the wall, the splendid new stand empty and rotting. This is where Jock Stein played for a draw in 1967 in a European Cup semi-final which ended 0-0 and opened Celtic's way to Lisbon.

Czech football is on the crest of a new wave, with Sparta and Slavia going strong in the UEFA Cup, Hradec Kralove through two Cup-winners Cup rounds and the national team performing well in their Euro '96 qualifying group.

But there is sadness in Prague at declining Juliska, at unfinished Eden, at new but scandal-ridden Letna, and at dowdy downtown Zizkov.

Why Kiev crashed out

Last month Kiev Dynamo were kicked out of the UEFA Champions League, and replaced by AaB Aalborg of Denmark, after attempting to bribe UEFA match officials. Keir Radnedge reveals the extraordinary background to one of the biggest scandals to hit Europe's club competitions

THE SPEED of AaB Aalborg's arrival in the Champions League at the expense of disgraced Kiev Dynamo surprised even them. Aalborg, the Danish champions, learned of confirmation only three days before their first match against FC Porto.

Yet the events which took them to the Das Antas stadium had been set in train almost two weeks earlier.

When Spanish referee Antonio Lopez Nieto, linesmen Victoriano Giraldez Carrasco and Salvador Chirino Gonzalez plus reserve official Jose Luis Prado Garcia set off from Malaga on Tuesday, September 12, bound for Ukraine, they knew they were flying into the unknown.

Even so, they were unprepared for what awaited them. The first surprise came at Kiev airport, where they were escorted through without having to undergo any of the usual passport and customs formalities. They were met by Vasili Babishuk, Kiev's vice-president, and an aide. Nothing unusual there. It is customary for a home club to assign a director to play host to the match officials and sort out their travel and training needs.

Lopez Nieto and his men wanted, after a long, tiring flight, to go straight to the hotel. But Babishuk, so Lopez Nieto later told a UEFA disciplinary panel, had other thoughts. Hardly had they got into the car than they were asked if they wanted a sauna at a nearby health club. They said they did not, but they stopped all the same, at a souvenir shop.

Lopez Nieto and his colleagues saw nothing much to buy but selected a few pens and postcards. When they went to the cash desk, they were told that the bill would be taken care of by the Kiev club.

Again, the alarm bells did not ring. As Lopez Nieto told me later: "It's accepted as standard practice that the host club gives you a little selection of badges, pennants and so on."

Back in the car, this time the Spaniards desperately hoped they would go on to the hotel. No such luck. The car stopped at an apartment block in a suburb and they were escorted up to the ninth floor, where a vast array of mink coats were displayed.

"Do you like them?" asked Babishuk. "How much?" asked Lopez Nieto. No answer. The referee and his linesmen, in time-honoured fashion, made their excuses and returned to the car. This time they were taken to their hotel where Lopez Nieto was flattered, but by now suspicious, to find that he had been allocated a luxury suite while his linesmen had simple standard rooms. He had just finished a shower when there was a knock at the door. When he opened it, there was nobody and nothing in the corridor except a large shopping bag.

Lopez Nieto took it into his room, peered inside, and saw two of the mink coats he had admired earlier. Now, starting to worry, he tried to phone the UEFA delegate, Heinz Fahnler, and the referees observer, Anton Boskovic, both of whom were due to be staying in the hotel. There was no reply from either room. Lopez Nieto told his colleagues what had happened and they waited together until the Kiev directors returned to invite them for dinner.

Happier days . . . Kiev players celebrate in a Champions League game last season

They were joined by Igor Surkis, brother of club president Grigori. He explained that the restaurant was 15 miles outside Kiev but that they were obliged to go there because it belonged to one of the club's sponsors. On the way they were again asked if they wanted a sauna. This time, feeling increasingly intimidated, they agreed. When the car stopped, however, the 'sauna' the Kiev men had in mind was not exactly the health club the referee had expected! They got back in the car but then arrived so late at the restaurant that no hot meals were available. Their dinner consisted of bread and butter.

While the linesmen played a brief game of billiards, Lopez Nieto was taken aside by Surkis who, without saying anything further, handed him a card on which was written: "Antonio. Win for Kiev, $30,000 for you."

Lopez Nieto said nothing of this kind had ever happened to him before and he had no intention of staying. He found his colleagues and they insisted on being returned to the hotel, where they found Fahnler and Boskovic and told their story. All six men went up to Lopez Nieto's room and took photographs of the fur coats.

By this time, Kiev's plotters realised they had misjudged their man. Babishuk went to the hotel, took back the coats and offered sincere apologies for any misunderstanding.

His departure left the four Spaniards panic-stricken. They were in a far-flung, unpredictable country and their rejection of the 'hospitality' clearly would have upset some very powerful men. They all spent the night in Lopez Nieto's room, taking turns to sleep or keep watch by the door.

In the morning, tired but relieved, Lopez Nieto phoned UEFA general secretary Gerd Aigner in Nyon, near Geneva, and recounted his adventure. What should he do? Aigner told him: "If you don't feel happy about refereeing the match we will understand. We can try to bring in a new referee or we could even postpone the game."

Lopez Nieto thought about it – and decided to go ahead with the match.

In the event there were no controversial incidents and Kiev beat Panathinaikos more easily than the 1-0 scoreline suggested. As linesman Carrasco said later: "They were a good team. It was stupid of them. They didn't need to try anything like that."

The following Wednesday, at UEFA's autumn meeting in Oporto, Lopez Nieto and Kiev's directors were summoned before the disciplinary committee. Lopez Nieto told his story. Babishuk and Surkis said he was just trying to cover his tracks – at their expense – because he had wanted to buy the coats but could not afford the price: $30,000.

UEFA believed the referee, kicked Kiev out of the Champions League, banned them from European

competition on the next two occasions they should qualify, and barred the Kiev men for life from any involvement with UEFA competitions.

Kiev were given 48 hours in which to appeal, with the hearing set for Nyon on the following Sunday . . . and Aalborg and Anderlecht learned informally that one of them almost certainly would be needed to substitute for Kiev in the next Wednesday's Champions League tie against FC Porto in Portugal.

UEFA's competitions committee met the following afternoon – Thursday September 21 – to decide which club should be provisionally nominated. Aalborg had been eliminated by Kiev in the preliminary round and were thus the 'sporting' choice while Anderlecht had been the original ninth seeds in the competition – just one place outside the circle seeded direct into the groups – and were the 'political' choice.

Frequently, especially since the advent of the Champions League, UEFA have been accused of putting commercial interests ahead of sporting concerns. Had they wanted to do so in this case then Anderlecht would have got the nod. The Belgian champions, notwithstanding their shock preliminary-round elimination by Ferencvaros, have a fine stadium and plenty of experience of staging Champions League matches, and would pull in the lucrative Belgian TV/sponsorship market. Aalborg, by comparison, were unfashionable, had minimal experience of European competition and a 13,000-capacity stadium, which may not reach the required standard.

The competitions committee went with the sport and chose Aalborg – to Anderlecht's fury. General manager Michel Verschueren faxed Aigner in protest "at this amazing decision". But Anderlecht, of course, had only themselves to blame for losing to Ferencvaros in the first place.

Kiev's protest was heard by the UEFA appeals board on the Sunday afternoon in Nyon. The commission went over all the evidence slowly and carefully. They were told that the Ukraine legal office had appointed an investigating prosecutor, and that Kiev wanted, at the least, a suspended sentence so that they could continue in the Champions League while further inquiries were undertaken.

But UEFA had taken enough criticism for caution over corruption allegations – not least, over the years, from *WORLD SOCCER* columnist Brian Glanville. There was to be no turning back. Kiev stayed banned and so did Babishuk and Surkis.

And thus a small, homely club from the north of Denmark suddenly appeared on European football's centre stage.

Club Focus

AaB AALBORG

Founded May 5, 1885
Stadium Aalborg Stadion (13,000)
President Poul Hedemann

HONOURS

National Championships (1) 1995
National Cups (2) 1966, 1970

HISTORY

AAB AALBORG are one of the oldest surviving clubs in Denmark – if not Europe – having been founded by a group of like-minded English and Danish sports enthusiasts in 1885.

The 110th anniversary this year could not have been celebrated more effectively than in securing the club's first national championship and, consequently, entry into the UEFA Champions League.

Aalborg were set up originally as a cricket club. At one stage, they won the national title 17 years in succession, although cricket has not featured among the club's activities since the late 1980s.

They won their first major prize in 1966, when they defeated KB 3-1 to win the Danish Cup, but their initial foray into European competition was short-lived. They had to face Everton in the Cup-winners Cup, were held 0-0 at home, then lost 2-1 at Goodison Park.

In 1970 Aalborg regained the Danish Cup, beating Lyngby 2-1 in the final, and again their European dreams were ended in the first round of the Cup-winners Cup. Poland's Gornik Zabrze were far too strong, winning 1-0 in Denmark and 8-1 at home.

Aalborg lost the 1987 domestic Cup Final 3-0 to AGF, who also won the League. So the losers went into the Cup-winners Cup – and went close to causing a major surprise, losing to Hajduk Split in the first round only after a penalty shoot-out. This era signalled the club's return to top competition after a slide, in the early 1980s, down into the Danish Third Division.

Their revival has been one of style as well as results. In the early 1990s Aalborg were considered one of the more cautious of Danish teams. Now they have a reputation as an attacking and entertaining side.

In the 1994 Danish championship, just to prove the point of the transition, both the leading marksmen came from Aalborg – Erik Bo Andersen (with 14 goals) and Peter Rasmussen (13).

THE STADIUM

Aalborg in northern Jutland, with a population of 160,000, is the fourth-largest city in Denmark.

Fans are proud of the intimate atmosphere in the municipally-owned Aalborg Stadion, which they consider a 'real football stadium' because there is no running track to dissipate the link between players and supporters. The original capacity was 22,000 but redevelopment work and security concerns have reduced it to 13,000, including 5,000 seats.

This will make Aalborg the smallest ground to host UEFA Champions League football – if they are allowed to do so. The club are determined to play all their home matches there to keep faith with their loyal supporters, but UEFA may decide that the arena and its floodlights are not up to standard. In that case, games would have to be staged in Copenhagen, Gothenburg or Brondby.

THE COACH

Joseph 'Sepp' PIONTEK (5.3.40)
Making a welcome return to top-level football. Born in what is now Wroclaw, Poland, and brought up near Bremen, Werder's first-choice right-back throughout the 1960s. Played 203 Bundesliga games as well as six times for West Germany. Retired in 1972 and coached Fortuna Dusseldorf and the Haiti national team before earning international acclaim for his work with the Danish national squad. He took them to the semi-finals of the 1984 European Championship, the second round of the 1986 World Cup and then the finals of the 1988 European Championship before returning to the club game.

THE PLAYERS

GOALKEEPERS
Thomas GILL (16.5.65)
Joined Aalborg at the start of 1994. Played previously for VIF, Start Kristiansand and Brann Bergen. Norwegian international.
Lars WINDE (3.12.75)
Danish Under-21 and youth international.

DEFENDERS
Jacob KRUGER (23.5.75)
One of the new Aalborg players this season.
Ib Richard SIMONSEN (3.4.64)
Sweeper at the heart of the Aalborg defence. More than 300 League games in 10 years. Club captain.
Soren THORST (8.1.65)
One of the club's longest-serving players, having joined in 1979. Record 350-plus League games for Aalborg. Ligament injury probably will keep him out of early matches in the UEFA Champions League. Father was an international defender.
Bjorn KRISTENSEN (10.10.63)
Veteran defender who joined Aalborg this summer to cover for Thorst. Previously with AGF Aarhus after spells in England with Newcastle United and Portsmouth. Danish international.
Torben BOYE (2.5.66)
Another stalwart with around 350 League games.
Calle FACIUS (1.1.71)
Six seasons at Aalborg. Danish Olympic international.

Top gun . . . leading scorer Erik Bo Andersen

MIDFIELDERS
Kristian THOMSEN (22.05.72)
Another of Aalborg's new players this season.
Torben HJERMITSLEV (24.04.71)
New signing this season.
Henrik RASMUSSEN (13.6.68)
Joined in 1990. Free-kick specialist. Nicknamed 'Mini'.
Jan PEDERSEN (12.11.66)
Joined in 1992. Previously with Norresundby.
Thomas THOMASBERG (15.10.74)
Defensive midfielder or central defender.
Lars Harbo THOMSEN (27.4.72)
Ten years with club. Previously with Godthab IF.
Jens JESSEN (21.10.67)
Joined in 1991 after spells with Starup IF and Varde IF. More than 150 League games for the club.

FORWARDS
Erik Bo ANDERSEN (14.11.70)
The club's most dangerous forward. Top League marksman in Denmark in 1994 with 14 goals. Joined from Droningborg Boldklub in 1991.
Peter RASMUSSEN (16.5.67)
Key figure in Aalborg's progress over the past five years. Previously with Germany's VfB Stuttgart. Regular in Danish national side.
Jens Christian MADSEN (1.2.70)
Six seasons with Brondby before joining Aalborg at the start of 1994. Danish Olympic international.
Jesper GRONKJAER (12.8.77)
Bright new talent. Under-18 international.
Thomas Buus NIELSEN (17.8.76)
New arrival in first-team squad this season.

Paying the game

Keir Radnedge on the new financial forces influencing football in the 1990s

SPONSORSHIP: it's the word which has changed the finance and the face of football.

At its most basic level it adds up to a business concern – from whatever realm of the high street – paying a club or national association to advertise its name through the publicity medium which is a football team in action. The shirt-advert is here to stay – except with a very few clubs such as Barcelona, for example, who are rich enough to be able to indulge their independent pride and have, so far, resisted temptation.

At its highest level, sponsorship adds up to an in-depth involvement in a club.

Parmalat provides the ultimate example of new-age sponsorship. In terms of personnel and joint interest it is almost impossible to say where Parmalat ends and the local club, Parma, begin. Calisto Tanzi is boss of both.

Furthermore, Parmalat has extended its sponsorship programme through 11 clubs across its multinational empire. That is a hint of the shape of things to come as the rich clubs develop an international image and get richer through regular participation in European competitions such as the Champions League. They will attract the big multinationals while the mid-table clubs will attract the more modest support of domestic industry.

The financial balance within the realms of sponsorship is changing in line with the varying amounts of publicity exposure both sought and available. You want to promote your company throughout Europe? Then you contract with a major European competition outfit – and pay the price. You want to build up your domestic brand name? Then you will make the more cost-effective deal with one of the non-high-flyer clubs.

Professional football now relies on sponsorship income. It is no longer a bonus, it is a solid plank of a club's balance sheet. Car company Opel, for example, pay Bayern Munich – the most attractive of German clubs from a commercial point of view – £2.5million a year. German champions Borussia Dortmund command around £1m a year from the tyre company, Continental.

The other significant sponsorship aspect within the game concerns kit. Once upon a time countries and clubs bought their own. Then, the national asociations, the big clubs and the most famous players were delighted to sign contracts through which one of the few sportswear companies gave them their kit in return for their company logo's visibility. Adidas built up a vast international reputation with a string of such deals with national associations. At the 1962 World Cup, for example, Adidas claimed that their boots were worn in every one of the 32 matches.

Then, in the mid-1980s, as the leisurewear market suddenly assumed significant commercial importance, so other companies – and, notably, American ones – realised the value to be gained from pushing their brand name through the greatest worldwide communicator – football.

Adidas and its old rivals Puma were shoved aside by the aggressive American marketing techniques by the likes of Nike and Reebok. National associations, clubs and players (and their agents!) realised that their kit had a significant commercial value. Now it's an auctioneer's delight. When the Italian federation's kit deal with Diadora expired, it organised a sealed bids auction among the companies desperate for the commercial kudos and promotional opportunity such a contract would bring. Five companies bid and Nike won the day with an offer which topped the total on offer from the other four!

Similarly in the club world. Adidas is losing the Liverpool contract to Reebok which is reported to have agreed to pay the Anfield club a staggering £5m a year. That reflects a variety of factors. One is Liverpool's status as a successful club. Another is the lucrative market in replica strips – which took off first in the United Kingdom and which is now being copied, with increasingly lucrative success, in Germany and then Spain, Italy and France. This

PARMALAT – THE MILKY WAY

For a company sponsor . . . the advantages are plain and, on a global scale, Parmalat is a fascinating example.

The Italian dairy produce company already had 18 production plants and an annual turnover of $1billion when president Calisto Tanzi decided to use football as a national and then international promotional vehicle.

The company had been involved successfully with skiing and motor racing but realised that football was THE major market sport.

Parmalat started in 1985 with the first shirt-advert deal undertaken by Real Madrid. Two years later they bought up local club Parma, of which Parmalat now controls 87.5 per cent of the shares.

Money and administrative support poured sin. Parma roared out of Serie B and are now UEFA Cup holders and potential Italian league champions.

Quickly, Parmalat began building a worldwide soccer sponsorship network to support their activities in their main commercial markets or targets.

Their clubs include Boca Juniors ($1.6million so far) in Argentina – the Parmalat name is now, thus, worn by Diego Maradona -- Penarol in Uruguay ($750,000), Palmeiras ($24m), Juventude of Caxias do Sul ($860,000) and Santa Cruz of Recife ($400,000) in Brazil, Videoton in Hungary (now renamed Parmalat FC at $300,000 so far), Moscow Dynamo in Russia ($500,000), Reggiana in Italy ($1.3m), Dinamo Tirana in Albania and Benfica in Portugal ($3.7m).

It's an impressive list which has taken eight years and $100million to build up. But, clearly, Parmalat considers the investment to have been well worthwhile.

And so, presumably, do clubs such as Parma, who are able to outbid the so-called giants for the services of the likes of Hristo Stoichkov, thanks to the support both direct and indirect which Parmalat has provided.

THE PARMALAT PORTFOLIO

SANTA CRUZ (BRA) $400,000

PARMALAT (HUN) $300,000

JUVENTUDE (BRA) $860,000

PARMA (ITA) $66m

PALMEIRAS (BRA) $24m

BENFICA (POR) $3.7m

BOCA JUNIORS (ARG) $1.6m

MOSCOW DYN (RUS) $500,000

REGGIANA (ITA) $1.3m

PENAROL (URU) $750,000

season, for example, Bayern Munich estimate their merchandising income at £12m, by far the best in Germany and six times as much as champions Borussia Dortmund!

Of course, it is possible to go over the top. Manchester United's recent plethora of varied strips may have been financially successful in the short term but it was frowned on – even within the sportswear industry – as a piece of commercial vulgarity which did the concept no favours. Italian clubs are just discovering a similar backlash after the various appearances of Milan wearing light blue, Inter wearing green, etc.

There is a delicate line to be drawn between what is commercially proper and what brings sponsorship into disrepute.

What appears certain is that an increased amount of 'meshing' will take place between the various strands involved in commercial exploitation of the game: the company sponsors, the kit sponsors and television interests.

Now, to pick up the next issue, if you bring the company sponsor and the kit sponsor together and can guarantee television exposure, you have the ideal commercial mix. That's what the Champions League is all about, that's what (on the face of it) UEFA's 'Vision' proposals are all about and this is where the increasing power of the national leagues is significant.

For most of football's history, clubs have banded together in leagues only because of the sole mutual interest in providing competition. Now, at last, all that is changing. They have realised a common financial interest from working together to build up the image of the league in which they compete.

'If you bring company sponsor, kit sponsor and TV together you have the ideal commercial mix. That's what the Champions League is all about'

The English Premiership was thus able to drive up the TV price. It has been able to establish what is termed a corporate identity and thus attract an overall sponsor such as Carling. Another spin-off has been the 'official ball' deal with Mitre. Now, for commercial reasons, Liverpool, Manchester United and Newcastle use a different ball for their home matches. But that may not go on forever. Nor is that merely a financial bonus for the league. It matters to the players who play the game.

For example, Bayern Munich's Mehmet Scholl would love to see the Bundesliga use the Adidas Questra. Not because he is contracted to Adidas. Such a deal would mean nothing to him in financial terms. But it would matter to his game. As a touch player, Scholl hates the different "feel" and behaviour of the variety of footballs used in the Bundesliga.

As the leagues in Germany, Italy, Spain and France grow stronger, so the network of such 'global' deals will be extended.

France, for example, came close this season to the first full-league kit deal similar to the model familiar to followers of American sports where the gridiron or baseball leagues have the power to order an overall kit deal because the clubs are 'merely' franchises. Adidas negotiated a deal with the French league whereby all top division clubs would wear its kit. It fell through – or was, at the least, shelved – because several clubs were unable and/or unwilling to break long-running contracts with sportswear rivals.

The French League may have jumped the gun, but president Noel Le Graet does not believe the idea is dead and buried. He says: "Football must look to exploring as many commercial ideas as possible. Company sponsors will not be able to keep increasing their investment in football and television may find another toy. There is no reason why football should always be the top weapon in the ratings wars."

But while it is, there remains plenty more money for football to earn.

ADIDAS – TOP MARKS

For a kit sponsor . . . football represents an area in which to associate its own name with the achievement image.

Adidas (founder Adolf 'Adi' Dassler, hence the name) first sprung to international football with the then revolutionary screw-in studs with which West Germany achieved one of the greatest upsets of all time by defeating Hungary in heavy rain in the 1954 World Cup Final. Everything developed from there.

Adidas contracted players and federations and, particularly after the accession to power of Adolf's son Horst, played international football politics with enormous success. Dassler junior gained enormous influence by signing kit deals with federations. After his death Adidas lost its commercial direction and it is only now that it is regaining lost ground.

This year Adidas claims to have sold 10million pairs of boots worldwide, compared with 3million for their chief rivals. Then there are 11million kit items plus 4million Questra footballs. Turnover was up to £600m compared with less than £200m in 1990. But make no mistake: for all the Adidas stress on technical quality and research, a huge amount depends on visibility through sponsorship of national associations, clubs and personality players to transmit the image. They must also, of course, be playing in the major commercial markets (One club sponsorship in Germany, for example, would be worth 2Q in the poorer cousins of eastern Europe).

Six of the likely finalists at Euro'96 will be Adidas countries – Spain, Romania, Germany, France, Norway and perhaps Turkey.

Ten of the 16 clubs in the UEFA Champions League are with Adidas (the NON-Adidas clubs are Ajax, Juventus, Aalborg, Borussia Dortmund, Blackburn and Real Madrid).

under contract include Juve's Del Piero – considered Adidas' most important long-term investment – Paul Gascoigne and Matthias Sammer. The Predator boots are being worn by Adidas signings such as Ronald Koeman, Marcel Desailly and Ciri Sforza. The Adidas goalkeeping stable – launched to attack top of the range Reusch and Uhlsport – includes Ed De Goey, Gilbert Bodart, Bogdan Stelea, Juanmi, Sweden's Magnus Hedman and Germany's up-and-coming Jens Lehmann.

Then again, the boot sponsorship world is full of stories of players who are contracted to one manufacturer but, out of personal choice, wear a rival's boot with the logo blacked out or torn off. Adidas staff were delighted, on seeing a German magazine's picture of Jean-Pierre Papin in training with Bayern, to note that the high-profile star of the Patrick promotional campaign, preferred to train Addas boots.

Awareness that around 7billion tele-spectators will watch the finals of Euro'96 means that any sponsor worth its name must be represented – if only to be able to stand still!

Kit change . . . Liverpool's John Barnes demonstrates the changing face of the football strip, all made by Adidas

Now a word from our sponsors...

Sponsorship is now a major source of income for clubs around the world. But who's paying what, where and why?

From the South African fans who chant the name of their sponsor, a maize meal producer, on the terraces, to the Dutch side who advertise Chicken Tonight on their chests, sponsorship is now an inescapable fact of modern football life.

Parmalat still lead the way in club sponsorship *(see previous page)*. But in Europe, German car giants Opel are not far behind. To their first deal, with Bayern Munich in 1989, Opel have added Sparta Prague, Standard Liege, Milan and, most recently, Paris Saint-Germain. They have also invested heavily in the French and Irish Republic national sides – although the Opel logo can not be displayed on the team shirts during matches – as well as the 1998 World Cup finals.

Opel, like many of the other companies we spoke to, were reluctant to disclose any precise figures of their sponsorhip deals. English Premiership clubs were particularly reticent when questioned.

According to accountants Touche Ross, Manchester United were the only club to mention sponsorship in their 1994 annual accounts, but even then it was lumped in with royalties and advertising. Do they know something the taxman doesn't?

We polled our correspondents around Europe, and further afield, on sponsorship. The results, below, make interesting reading.

JVC . . . 14 years with Arsenal

AUSTRIA: The top sponsors in Austria are the tobacco manufacturers Memphis. They back FK Austria to the tune of £300,000 a year. The average figure is around £150,000, with the lowest being £90,000. Insurance companies, breweries and casinos are among the other most popular sponsors.

BELGIUM: The average annual sponsorship figure received by First Division clubs is around £250,000. At the top of the scale, champions Anderlecht are paid about £1m by the Bank Generale, while their lesser brethren have to settle for sums in the region of £100,000. Standard Liege, part of Opel's growing sponsorship empire, are believed to receive nearer seven figures than six.

Banks, breweries, insurance companies and car producers are the most common sponsors. Terra Cottem, a company which produces a special kind of long-lasting grass, sponsor Waregem, while Lommel are backed by Sensodyne toothpaste. Germinel Ekeren are supported by a taxi company and Molenbeek are backed by Belgacom, the Belgian equivalent of British Telecom.

ENGLAND: Premiership clubs, as with many other British companies, refused to reveal specifc figures for their multi-million pound deals. Manchester United, often villified for their commercial activities, were the only club to even mention sponsorship in their accounts for 1994. However, even they did not include an exact figure. The sum of £4.5m was given for sponsorship, royalties and advertising.

The rest would only say how long the contracts ran, and were no more specific as to the sums involved. The only concession they would make was that the deals generally involved seven figures rather than six.

English football has come a long way since the first sponsorship deal was struck, by Derby County with Swedish car manufacturers Saab in the late 1970s. The FA Premiership clubs' sponsors now come from a very narrow range of companies. Computer firms lead the way with six deals, breweries cover five, electronics three, and motoring, construction and leisure two each.

Arsenal have been sponsored by JVC for 14 years, the longest such deal, with Manchester United's deal with Sharp not far behind.

Although it provides vital revenue for clubs, kit sponsorship is by no means the only source of income. Man United recently announced record merchandise sales totalling £24m for 1994, of which replica-kit sales only accounted for £8m.

For other Premiership clubs, income from the TV deal with Sky Sports, as well as from Carling's sponsorship of the Premiership, has been vital. Premiership clubs have taken a hefty slice of the five-year £304m deal with Sky.

Below the Premiership, Endsleigh Insurance has backed Football League Divisions One, Two and Three in a seven-figure sponsorship deal.

FRANCE: Paris Saint-Germain were the latest to join the Opel stable, signing a multi-million pound deal with the Germans. TV company Canal+, who have ploughed millions of francs into the Paris club since 1991 and are estimated to have contributed more than £100m to French soccer, still have a major stake in the club and the Parc Des Princes stadium.

French clubs were the first to introduce different sponsors for home and away shirts and many are subsidised by local authorities; others have more than one sponsor. Champions Nantes are backed by Adidas, IPC (computers) and Eurest (France's answer to Trust House Forte).

GERMANY: Bayern Munich, from car makers Opel, and Bayer Leverkusen, from pharmaceutical manufacturer Alka Selzer, have the biggest sponsorship

Opel . . . biggest deal in the Bundesliga

deals in the Bundesliga. Both receive £2.5m a year from their respective sponsors. Fortuna Dusseldorf have the smallest deal, around £400,000 a year from the brewery Diebels, who also back Borussia Monchengladbach. The average sponsorship deal in the top division works out at around £1m a year.

A variety of companies sponsor Bundesliga sides. They include insurance firms, breweries, car makers, dairy producers and textile firms. Companies considered unsuitable to advertise in sport, such as tobacco manufacturers, are not accepted.

GREECE: Two clubs have changed their names and adopted the names of their sponsors. Motor car company Skoda have backed Xanthi for four years and the team are now known as Skoda Xanthi. Larisa now go by the name of Larisa Agrotiki thanks to a sponsorship deal with an agricultural bank.

HOLLAND: International bank ABN/AMRO sponsors Ajax, while Philips, of course, have their name in bold letters on the PSV shirts. These two giants receive in the region of £1.5m per year, although it is highly likely that Philips, as PSV's owners, contribute cash to the club's coffers in other ways.

NEC and RKC receive the least from a sponsor – around £200,000. Volendam are the only first division team currently without a sponsor. Banks and insurance companies are the most common sponsor, while three first division clubs advertise kitchen equipment and second division TOP OSS are backed by Unilever. The product TOP OSS players must promote on their shirt . . . Chicken Tonight!

ITALY: The Italians were the first to take sponsorship on board in the 1950s through Lanerossi Vicenza – literally Rossi Wool Vicenza – though few people beyond Italy realised it.

It was not, however, until 1980, that Calcio opened up its minds and its doors to shirt advertising and the sponsorship revolution in general.

Initially, it was the big Italian companies who stepped in to back their favourite teams. Then, last year, foreign businesses – realising the international promotional potential of Italian football through live match transmission and European competition success – jumped on the bandwagon.

Opel provided the largest investment of 'new money' with its three-year, £15m contract with Milan. Then came the Japanese Kenwood company with Genoa, a deal tied in to the presence in the club last season of Japanese superstar Kazu Miura. Now Sony are in the middle of a two-year, £6m contract with Juventus. The Libyan petroleum corporation, Tamoil, made their debut in Italy with Atalanta.

Paolo Lutteri, a director of Sipra which operates the publicity licensing operation on behalf of RAI state television, says: "It's easy to see why foreign

ITALY

LAST SEASON – CLUB BY CLUB

CLUB	COMPANY	ANNUAL SUM (£)
Bari	Wuber (grocery)	400,000
Brescia	Cab (bank)	400,000
Cagliari	Pecorino Sardo (cheese)	2m
Cremonese	Moncart (homewear)	200,000
Fiorentina	Sammontana (ice cream)	500,000
Foggia	Snips (homewear)	350,000
Genoa	Kenwood (home electrics)	700,000
Inter	Fiorucci (grocery)	1.7m
Juventus	Sony (eletronics)	3m
Lazio	Banca di Roma (bank)	1m
Milan	Opel (cars)	5m
Napoli	Record (kitchenware)	1.2m
Padova	Acqua Vera (mineral water)	450,000
Parma	Parmalat (dairy)	1m (nominal)
Reggiana	Latte Giglio (dairy)	500,000
Roma	Nuova Tirrena (insurance)	1.4m
Sampdoria	Erg (petrol)	950,000
Torino	Bongioanni (heat)	500,000

companies are attracted to Italian football. A strong German Mark or US dollar can go a long way when invested in the promotional strength of our game. For example if, say, the German airline Lufthansa wanted to promote itself internationally through football sponsorship it would probably get more for its money backing a club like Juve than one of its own German teams."

Alberto Rognoni, a sponsorship specialist with the Italian league, says: "In Italy, apart from Pay-TV, it's impossible to watch our league football live. But that doesn't go for foreign countries – many of which see a match live on Sunday afternoon or Sunday evening. It's natural that multi-national sponsors should be interested."

And where there is demand, and competition, there will also be high prices – as the Opel and Sony figures prove.

In 1980, the 18 clubs of Serie A raked in a total of £2m between them from shirt-adverts and associated promotions. Last season, that sum could be multiplied 10 times.

Following the shirt ad sponsors came the kit deals – again with foreign companies dominating the market. Last season British company Umbro kitted out Inter, Lazio, Napoli and Parma; Japan's Asics kitted Reggiana and Sampdoria; the German Uhlsport was worn by Brescia, Cremonese and Fiorentina; with Adidas was contracted to Foggia and Roma. The total value of kit deals in Serie A has been estimated at around £8m.

POLAND: For many years Polish clubs had close relationships with Communist-owned factories. That all changed with the political upheaval of 1989. Only a few still receive assistance from the large enterprises which remain under state control. GKS Belchatow are backed by a coal mine, Zaglebie Lubin by a copper mine, Stomil Olsztyn by a tyre factory and Hutnik Krakow and Rakow Czestochowa by ironworks.

Other clubs have found private sponsors and have adopted the sponsors' name as a result. Amica Wronki are now backed by Amica, an electric cooker factory, and Widzew Lodz by Cin-and-Cin, an alcohol distillery.

Some companies have invested money in more than one club. Foto-World, a joint venture with Kodak, and Pol-Kaufring, a cosmetics firm, have backed Legia Warsaw, Polonia Warsaw, Olimpia/Lechia Poznan and amateur club Pogon Konstancin.

Legia have probably the biggest deal – around £2m. Other clubs, such as Pogon Szczecin, have no sponsors.

PORTUGAL: The sponsorship deals reflect the size and importance of the clubs within the First Division. The Big Three– FC Porto, Sporting Lisbon and Benfica – have the biggest deals, Porto with Revigres, a ceramics company, Sporting with television company SIC, and Benfica with Parmalat. The Benfica deal, around £2.4m, is believed to be the biggest of the three.

In contrast Guimaraes, Gil Vicente, Braga and Leca have no deals. Supermarkets back Farense Uniao de Leiria and Estrela da Amadora; finance companies support Maritimo, Boavista and Belenense; Campomaoirense are sponsored by by coffee producers Delta; and Tirsense promote regional tourism on their shirts.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: The Irish have a reputation for being a nation who like to take a drink. The main sponsors in the FAI National League are obviously aware of this, as drinks companies sponsor three Premier Division teams and two First Division sides. Guinness have sponsored Cork City since they joined the League in 1984, Harp, who also sponsor the FAI Cup, support Dundalk, while the young students of UCD prefer Budweiser.

First Division Cobh Ramblers are sponsored by Beamish, while Waterford carry the Hoffman logo. Cobh were the first side to carry a different sponsor on the front and back of their jerseys. Their backs are sponsored by Goodyear Tyres.

Apart from drinks companies, most other sponsors are in the consumer market. They vary from paint manufacturers Dulux to McDonalds fast-food restaurants.

The deals cost anything from £25,000 to £50,000 for a season.

The most unusual deal has been done by English Premiership club Everton, who have allied with the celebrated 'nursery' club, Home Farm. The Dublin amateurs now carry the Everton name on their shirts and are officially known as Home Farm Everton.

The League itself has been sponsored since the 1970s. Bass were the original backers and they have been followed by Kentucky Fried Chicken, Opel and now gas company Bord Gais.

SCOTLAND: The deals struck by Rangers and Celtic with, repectively, Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and double-glazing giants CR Smith are the most lucrative in the Scottish Premier Division. While figures are not readily available, it is not unrealistic to assume that annual payments in the region of £250,000 will be changing hands.

Further down the scale, both Motherwell (Motorola) and Hibernian (Calor) have negotiated deals which also involve six-figure sums, but lower profile clubs like Partick Thistle and Raith Rovers receive more modest payments. On average, kit sponsorship of a Premier Division club is likely to cost in the region of £50,000 to £100,000 per season.

SOUTH AFRICA: With declining attendances hurting incomes, kit sponsorship remains one of the most effective revenue sources for clubs.

All but a handful of First Division clubs enjoy kit sponsorship, but the sums involved vary vastly.

Champions Orlando Pirates recently signed a long-term deal with cement company Anglo-Alpha, worth more than £1m. Their near-neighbours, Kaizer Chiefs, have enjoyed a 15-year relationship with Iwisa, a brand of maize meal. Supporters even chant the name of the product during games, such is the entrenchment of Iwisa as the team's sponsors.

Smaller clubs often have relied heavily on the goodwill of their chairmen, using the team's jerseys to promote their products. Cape Town Spurs are backed by Shoe City, the company whose chairman, David Rodwell, also owns Spurs.

Jomo Cosmos, the team with the least imaginative kit in the First Division, are ironically sponsored by fashion house Carducci, while other major backers include Spar supermarkets (AmaZulu) and Ellerines furniture stores (Mamelodi Sundowns).

A recent change in the law means that clubs are no longer permitted to change their name to fit in with their sponsors. Bloemfontein Celtic, for example, have been known as Frasers (a furniture outlet) Celtic and Magic Curl (a hair product) Celtic, while Mamelodi Sundowns were once officially known as He-Man Sundowns after a product reportedly beneficial to the libido!

SPAIN: Kit sponsorship is very much in its infancy despite massive TV exposure guaranteed to most of the 22 clubs in the newly-expanded First Division. Some deals are worth barely £200,000 per season, but kitchen-manufacturer Teka's arrangement with Real Madrid earns the club a much needed £1m every year. Barcelona systematically refuse to "sully their shirt" by advertising, and with Athletic Bilbao now prepared to jump on the bandwagon, Barca are the only club with a radical attitude.

Average earnings from kit sponsorship are in the order of £400,000 per season, although that modest figure may be slightly generous.

Kit sponsors tend to be parochial. Celta's deal with Citroen, for example, is the only sniff of a car manufacturer except for Ford who, after years of production at the Almusafes plant, have just been persuaded to put their name on the Valencia shirt. They are the only one of the multinationals which sponsor the UEFA Champions League currently visible.

A quarter of the First Division clubs promote regional banks. Four teams simply promote tourist resorts and Marbella is the only name which appears on two shirts – those of Sevilla and Atletico Madrid. The connection, of course, is that the Atletico president, Jesus Gil, happens to be Mayor of Marbella.

This is typical in a country where few clubs have a coherent marketing strategy and tend to end up promoting companies linked to board members. Apart from Atletico, this applies to Zaragoza, who advertise their president's mattresses or Espanyol, who take a modest £200,000 for promoting the Dani range of canned goods produced by one of their directors.

SWEDEN: The biggest sponsor of Swedish soccer is the state-owned pools company, paying the Swedish FA around £4m annually. That, in turn, is shared between the 'Allsvenskan' and the First Division clubs.

Leading the sponsorship league, IFK Gothenburg receive around £400,000 from domestic sponsorship deals per year. The top clubs average about £200,000 to £300,000 a year.

Sweden's leading shirt sponsor, the ICA supermarket chain, have backed IFK, Vastra Frolunda and Halmstad, among others. Other sponsors have been either consumer interests or from Sweden's traditionally strong industries, such as the giant wood and paper company MoDo, who sponsor Norrkoping.

The local car industry has kept its distance from football. Volvo, with massive plants in Gothenburg, pour money into golf tournaments and show jumping events, but have not warmed to soccer.

SWITZERLAND: Most clubs and sponsors are cagey about disclosing the amounts of money paid and received in sponsorship deals. Most sponsors are private companies, such as building contractors, and industrial combines.

Media estimates put Grasshopper Zurich at the top of the the list of earnings. They are thought to be paid £250,000 a year by the Italian pasta manufacturers Barilla.

Compiled by Gavin Hamilton

Additional contributions from Keir Radnedge, John Kelly, Arthur Rotmil, Nick Harling, Lou Economopoulos, Harry Hamer, Dariusz Kurowski, Alberto Da Silva, Sean Creedon, Alan Fairley, Mark Gleeson, Graham Turner, Pentti Hietanen.

Juve man . . . Gianluca Vialli in action against Cremonese

Bianchi bows to the inevitable

The sacking of Ottavio Bianchi could not stop Internazionale crashing out of the UEFA Cup to lowly Lugano. Paddy Agnew reports

TO START where we left off last month, namely with Internazionale, where coach Ottavio Bianchi was under pressure even before the season began. To say that the writing was on the wall for Bianchi is a bit like saying that the Pope prays a lot!

Defeats by Napoli and Parma, a draw with Piacenza and a win against Vicenza were enough to see Bianchi unseated after only four League games. The final blow came on the fourth day at Napoli where a 2-1 defeat prompted Bianchi to utter defeatist words which suggested he knew his time with Inter was already up: "The side appears confused and when a side is confused, the blame can only lie with the coach."

Twenty-four hours later, Bianchi was out, being replaced (temporarily?) by former Inter ace, Spaniard Luisito Suarez. Even if Inter owner, petrol millionaire Massimo Moratti, indulged in Jesuitical hair-splitting by suggesting that Bianchi had not been "sacked" but rather had been merely "dismissed", no one was fooled.

After only one month, the 'piazza' has claimed an illustrious victim, one of Italian soccer's most competent and experienced coaches and the man who guided Napoli to their first ever historic title success back in 1987. After only one month and working with a first-choice side which contains seven new elements, Bianchi has been shown the door.

It could be that Bianchi does not know how to do his job any more. It could be that he got on so badly with senior Inter squad members that no good could ever have come out of their working relationship. We doubt it.

The truth is that sections of the media, club officialdom and the Inter fans have been against Bianchi since mid-summer and probably for no better reason than that they reckon the side needed a change. The 'piazza' wanted a fresh face and it got one.

That Inter's problems were not exclusively linked to Bianchi immediately became apparent. In Suarez's first game in charge, just 24 hours after Bianchi had been sacked, Inter achieved the seemingly impossible, being eliminated from the UEFA Cup by the moderate Swiss side, Lugano, beaten 1-0 at the San Siro no less.

Things improved dramatically on the following Sunday when, helped on the way by the remarkable free-kick abilities of Brazilian Roberto Carlos, they trounced Torino 4-0. That win notwithstanding, our original pre-season prediction for a 'hot and heavy' season at Inter holds good.

The side remains very much at the 'work in progress' stage, looking unsettled, unsure and unbalanced. Swiss national coach, Englishman Roy Hodgson, is reportedly on the way and will take over from the stop-gap Suarez, just as soon as he frees himself of the responsibility of ensuring Switzerland's qualification for next year's Euro '96 in England.

The fact that one or two of Hodgson's future colleagues have already been complaining about the impropriety of engaging a foreign coach outside the normally permitted calendar time (i.e. during the summer) suggests that Hodgson will also find the Inter and Italian environment 'hot and heavy'.

Given Inter's lack of a genuine central target man (Maurizio Ganz is fast and agile, but lightweight in the penalty area) and given their lack of a playmaker to complement the combative skills of Englishman Paul Ince – Francesco Dell'Anno could do the job but has been so undermined by unfavourable criticism at Inter that he plays only irregularly and usually anonymously – Hodgson will have his work cut out.

If it was predictable that Inter would struggle, at least in the first half of this season, then it was equally predictable that even within a month the championship race would be focussed on three clubs: Juventus, Milan and Parma.

The reigning champions Juventus have been looking mean and lean in Europe and efficient in the League. Impressive Champions League performances in a 3-1 away win against Borussia Dortmund and a 3-0 home win against Steaua Bucharest have alternated with less impressive League draws against Cagliari and Napoli.

However, it is no secret that the Champions League is number one item on the 95-96 Juventus shopping list and the apparent inconsistency of form comes as no surprise. Coach Marcello Lippi hinted at the current Juventus priorities when excusing his side's 1-1 home draw with Napoli, a

Free-kick maestro . . . Inter's Roberto Carlos

game that had come just three days after the Champions League win against Steaua, saying: "The truth is that we're not yet 100%. We're competing on different fronts and it's not easy to be mentally right for a game on both Sunday and Wednesday."

Moral of the tale could be that when Juventus do achieve 100 per cent fitness and readiness, then their Italian League rivals had better be worried.

Inadvertently, Juventus may have received a boost from the final act in the three-year-long soap opera, 'Sacchi-Meets-Vialli, A Story of Mutual Loathing'. Two days after Italy had been less than impressive 1-0 Euro '96 winners against Slovenia, Arrigo Sacchi announced that the time was right for Gianluca Vialli to return to the national side for the first time since December 1992.

Furthermore, Sacchi revealed that last spring he had talked to the Italian squad and asked them how they felt about the return of Vialli. No way, replied the players. However, six months later, all had changed and the players were now willing to take Vialli back, said a pleased Sacchi.

Peace in our time, then? Smiles and handshakes all round, with Sacchi relieved to have finally found a way of recuperating arguably the best Italian striker of the moment for next year's Euro '96 finals in England?

No way.

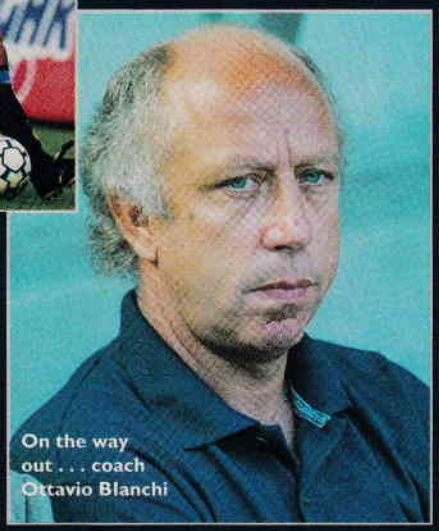
The idea of a player plebiscite did not amuse Vialli, who responded within 24 hours by saying: "Sacchi's words did not please me . . . and therefore I've decided to never again play for Italy. I would never have imagined that a call-up to the national squad depended on the approval of the other squad members. In 15 years as a professional, I've never heard of anything like it."

Indeed, nor have we. Before season's end, though, Sacchi's loss may well prove to be a Juventus gain.

If the presence of Juventus, Milan and Parma in the leading group after only a few days comes as no surprise, the same can hardly be said of Napoli, also competing with the big guns. Joint second by Day Five, Napoli confirmed that their position was no fluke by holding Juventus to that aforementioned 1-1 draw in Turin.

After the match, Napoli's wily Serb coach, Vujadin Boskov, amused himself by refuting the media tag of "revelation" of the season, saying:

"I don't understand why you lot [journalists] keep on talking about us as some kind of surprise. Perhaps too many people have forgotten how we finished last season, with four wins in a row and narrowly missing out on UEFA [qualification]".


On the way out . . . coach Ottavio Blanchi

That same UEFA qualification remains this year's target and given form shown so far, Napoli could well pull it off.

Which is about as much as one can say for former champions Milan, whose problems emerged clearly when beaten 1-0 away to Bari, also on Day Five. The physical fragility of Roberto Baggio (injured again as we write), the frustration of Croatia captain Zvonimir Boban (threatening to leave if he continues to be dropped) and the apparent impatience of club owner Silvio Berlusconi with the lack of "champagne soccer" played by his side (coach Fabio Capello may yet get it in the neck) all suggest that the Milan season will prove 'movimentata', as the natives would say.

Final thoughts. The 0-0 Rome derby draw between AS Roma and Lazio merely confirmed what we already knew – namely, that neither side represents championship-winning material. While, for what it is worth, Parma continue to be your correspondent's prediction for champions, 3-0 defeat by Sampdoria notwithstanding.

Parma's Bulgarian Hristo Stoichkov is already beginning to make himself felt, while the club has shown enough overall strength to make light of the absence of such as captain Lorenzo Minotti (injured), Swede Tomas Brolin (out of form) and Colombian Faustino Asprilla, currently dropped to allow for a two-man attack of Stoichkov and the in-form Gianfranco Zola.

The write stuff

Phil McVie on the rise of would-be journalist and new arrival at Juventus, Juan Pablo Sorin

IF STARTING your career by emulating Diego Maradona is a guarantee of reaching the very top, then Juan Pablo Sorin has made the perfect start.

Sorin ***(pictured below)***, who as a youngster wanted to be a journalist, followed Maradona by starting out at the Buenos Aires Argentinos Juniors, and captaining his country to a World Youth Cup triumph. Maradona did so in 1979, Sorin in 1995.

He also made his full international debut as a teenager, if not quite as young as Maradona, who did so at 17. Sorin was 18 when he went on as a substitute in Argentina's 4-1 win over Bulgaria in a friendly in Buenos Aires last February.

The rise of 'Juampi' Sorin – a left-back who played in central defence for Argentina's youth team and a fine midfielder in the making – has been meteoric.

Exactly a year after his First Division debut for Argentinos Juniors on September 9, 1994, Sorin was making his first appearance for mighty Juventus in an Italian Cup match against Avellino on September 9, 1995.

"I've gained things in a year that some players don't experience in a whole career," he said.

"Thanks to my family, I've managed to keep my feet on the ground. But it was difficult at times. My head was whirling," he said from his new home in central Turin.

Coach Daniel Passarella picked him in his first Argentina squad in October 1994, when Sorin had seven games and one goal under his belt.

"I nearly died. On top of that, on the Sunday I scored my first goal in the First Division."

Sorin cut his long black hair, as per Passarella's orders.

His full first international in February 1995 was followed by a gold medal in Argentina's Panamerican Games team in March and the World Youth Cup in April.

"During the World Youth Cup there was talk about Inter, but nothing more," Sorin said. "Then it all happened very fast. In two weeks I was a Juventus player."

Former Juventus great Omar Sivori, based in his native Argentina as a scout for the club, recommended Sorin, who has signed for two years. After one there is the option to extend the contract to four. Sorin is Juventus's fourth foreigner, behind the proven midfield trio of Paulo Souza, Didier Deschamps and Vladimir Jugovic.

He is a level-headed youngster of middle-class background – the son of an architect of Jewish extraction – and his family live in one of the smartest central boroughs of Buenos Aires.

He is happy to take his time to learn, and says: "If the Italian league is not the most professional and hardest in the world, it's one of them.

"There's a big difference between Italian and Argentinian football. Here it's much faster, there's little space.

"I like Juventus's style of pressing constantly, looking for gaps, their winning attitude."

He has no single role model. "Maradona, of course, is my favourite. I admire Christian Ziege of Bayern Munich and I'd like to have the shot of Brehme or Branco. I also like the way Roberto Carlos goes forward."

Of his own game, he says: "I am a safe marker and I like to make surprise runs into attack. I like to start movements out of defence."

Despite his slight build (1.72 metres, 65 kg), he is good in the air.

Sorin, who finished his secondary education at night school in Buenos Aires because of his commitments with Argentinos Juniors, wanted to go to university to study literature, but instead opted for a part-time course in journalism. These studies have been suspended because of the transfer to Juventus.

He will be combatting his homesickness with regular visits from his family and girlfriend.

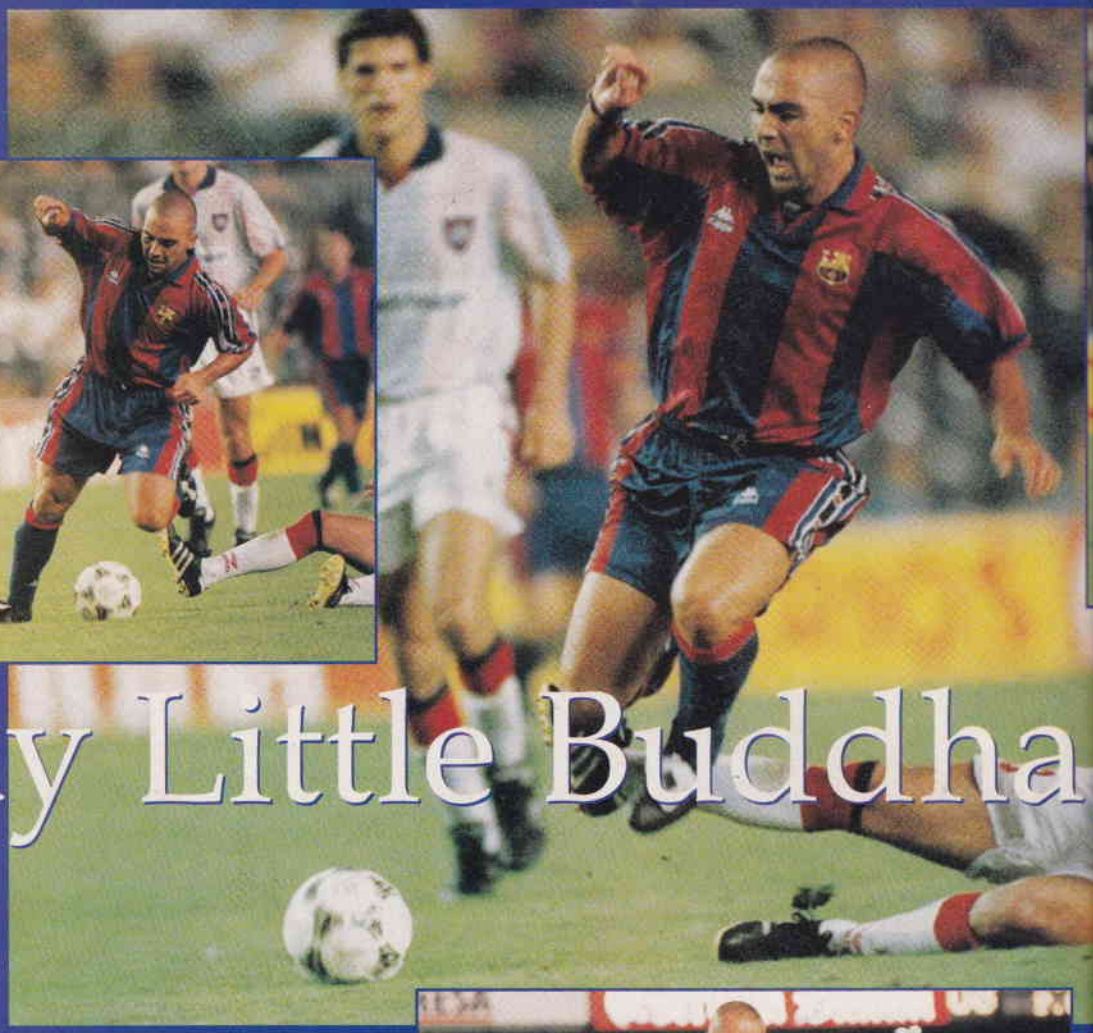
He has also made friends with two Argentinians from Cordoba who are working in Turin.

He has a head start on most foreigners who move to Italy, having learned Italian at school.

His chief ambition is "to win everything with Argentina.

"I'd die to wear the jersey," he says.

Success at Juventus may be the more immediate requirement, but France '98 is the next big goal.



Cocky Little Buddha

Graham Turner on the startling rise of Barcelona's latest sensation

HE STANDS 5ft 6in his longest studs. Bald as a coot. Or rather, shaven as a coot – which is why his team-mates at Barcelona call him The Little Buddha.

Jorge Valdano tried to sign him for Real Madrid a few months ago and his assistant, Angel Cappa, has no hesitation in proclaiming him as "the brightest prospect in the whole of Europe, a wonderful footballer who can be compared with Marco Van Basten or Ruud Gullit". Maybe not at the hairdresser.

At 19, Ivan De la Pena is being hailed as the new superstar of Spanish football.

The Spanish League is being invaded by the Teen Army. Raul is the new idol at Real Madrid. His namesake, loaned by Valencia to Valladolid, also looks a great prospect. Carlos Dominquez, top scorer at the Under-18 championships in Greece this summer, is the new hero at Sevilla. Joseba Etxeberria has joined Julen Guerrero at the top of the bill in Bilbao.

But none has had quite the same media-hype as The Little Buddha, to the extent that Barca coach Johan Cruyff, steeped in the Ajax formulae for handling young prodigies, is obsessed with preventing success from going to Ivan's immaculately polished head.

Cruyff reacts angrily if media questioning centres on his young midfielder. He is furious with the Barcelona president, Joseph Lluis Nunez, for reacting to Real's offer by giving Ivan a new contract valid until the year 2003 and guaranteeing earnings way above the salary cap placed on other youngsters who emerge from the youth scheme.

"Giving a youngster an eight-year contract and a lot of money," Cruyff maintains, "is to invite him to become complacent. What incentives has he got?"

This is why Cruyff has studiously ignored the Catalan *vox populi*, which has long since been demanding a first-team place for the new idol. He somewhat reluctantly threw him on as sub in the opening League game in Valladolid, where he rounded off a 2-0 win in dashing style by skipping round two defenders and the goalkeeper before tapping the ball home.

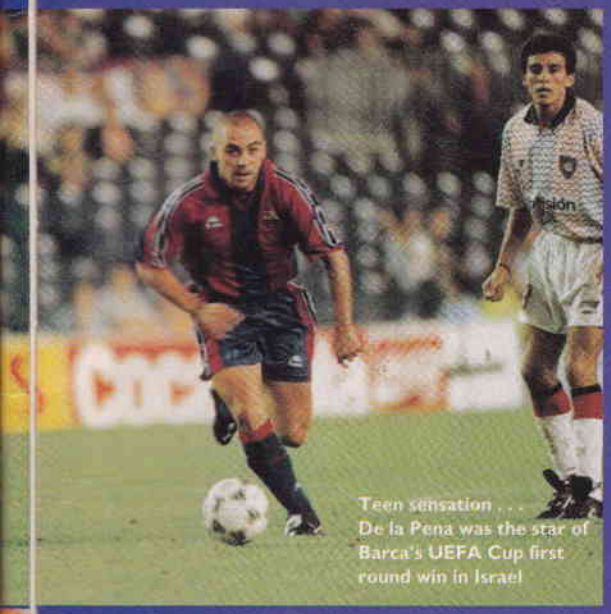
The ensuing media coverage strengthened Cruyff's fears that Ivan might become a cocky Little Buddha and, indeed, he ordered him to Buddha off back to the reserve side on the following weekend. He then took Ivan off after he had scored one and set up three of the first five goals in the 7-0 rout of Hapoel Beer Sheva in Israel. Since then, Ivan has been in and out of the side but permanently in the headlines, and mobbed by fans wherever the hairless head appears.

Cruyff's concern is understandable. De la Pena was featured at the epicentre of a minor footballing earthquake when he was only 14. Atletico Madrid, Sporting Gijon, Auxerre, Barcelona, Real Madrid and his local team, Racing Santander, were the protagonists of a not-always dignified scuffle to sign him.

As a youngster, he got used to performing before hordes of talent scouts and opposing fans anxious to put down the 'stuck-up little kid' who arrogantly ran rings around the rest. Real Madrid seemed to have him in their pocket, thanks to the relationship between his father and legendary winger Paco Gento. But in the end his mum had the last word.

She was unhappy about Ivan going into digs in Madrid. Barcelona's residential school at La Masia was the ideal solution, so off he went to Catalunya.

The fawning by scouts desperate to recruit him and the near-auction nature of the situation was all a bit much for the boy born on May 6, 1976, in the fishermen's quarter of Santander, where his parents ran a pub.



Teen sensation . . . De la Pena was the star of Barca's UEFA Cup first round win in Israel

When he moved into La Masia in the summer of 1991, the club's priority was to keep his head on his shoulders and keep him away from the star system.

Racing had been unwilling to let him go and Ivan is still a 'socio' of the Santander club. But his dreams of grandeur pushed him towards the bigger club. The problem was that Barcelona's attempts to pull him out of the spotlight and into obscurity were too successful for Ivan's liking and, more especially, his dad's.

Agustin De la Pena fretted, impatient for his son to capitalise on his talent. Barcelona kept him in the Under-19s and only when he was promoted to the reserve team last season did his earnings reach £100 a week. Fans began to ask what had happened to the prodigy who, in the infant and junior sides at Sotilezas, Perines and Racing Santander, had been cranium and shoulders above the rest.

Whenever Ivan's name was mentioned within earshot of Cruyff, the reaction was invariably a put-down. "We have six or seven players of similar quality," he would snap. He told the coaches of the youth sides to make Ivan play on the right wing so that, Ajax-style, he would have to learn the tricks of the trade in positions other than his natural role as a midfield organiser.

Last season, having been taken with the first-team squad to play an exhibition match in Almeria, he heard of plans to relegate him to the third team "so that he can get kicked around a bit". At this point, De la Pena senior exploded and began to listen to offers from Valencia and the two Madrid clubs.

When the Barcelona media labelled him a money-grabber, he stepped down from his role as agent and employed Jose Maria Minguella, who took Maradona to Barcelona 13 years ago, and represents half the current first-team squad.

Minguella riled Cruyff during fierce bargaining but he got his way: a contract which secures Ivan's future at Barcelona.

"When I thought about it," admits Ivan, "it seemed a bit cowardly to go. After all, I left Santander at 15 to come here and I've been through some really tough times. Walking away at the time when I can break into the first team didn't seem logical."

Ask him about his virtues as a footballer and he'll shrug and say "vision and skill". Easier said than done. He still has rough edges – as 10 yellow cards in 31 games for the reserves last season and a sending-off during his first appearance in the Under-20 Championships in Qatar amply testify.

He may not make national coach Javier Clemente's Euro '96 squad because of the wealth of midfielders in Spanish football, but he could star in the Atlanta Olympics.

The Little Buddha is a joy to watch. If Cruyff lets us.

Real deeper in the red

CRISIS AT REAL: the umpteenth, in fact. The annual audit at the club has confirmed that Real Madrid's debts now total £62.3million.

Even though Real won the League last season with an average home gate for all competitions of over 85,000, the club made an operating loss of £10m. The desperate situation was due to be discussed at the AGM, scheduled to take place while *WORLD SOCCER* was at the printer.

Rumours suggest that Ramon Mendoza will relinquish the presidency and hand over the hot potato to his right-hand man, Lorenzo Sanz.

Financial experts maintain that the only feasible solution is to convert Real into a limited company, using share capital to meet short-term debts totalling over £35m. At the same time, Real are fighting Infosa, the company who claim all publicity and merchandising rights until the end of the century. The loggerhead negotiations between the two parties have prompted UEFA to deposit Real's Champions League income as frozen assets in a Swiss account until the dispute is settled.

Target man . . . Fernando Redondo was booed off the pitch by Real fans

As if this weren't enough, the team went into a trough at the very moment when the fans were searching for a glimmer of excitement. Having won the local derby against Rayo Vallecano 5-1, Real outplayed Athletic Bilbao at the Bernabeu, only to commit two naive defensive errors in the last 10 minutes and lose 2-1. A week later, Ivan Brzic's Oviedo side breezed into town and fought back from 1-0 and 2-1 down to win 3-2, with Oliverio Jesus Alvarez Gonzalez, thankfully known as 'Oli', scoring twice.

The strident note of that evening was the fans' constant barracking of their own team, especially Argentinian Fernando Redondo. A few days earlier, he had refused to cut off his flowing mane – a prerequisite demanded by coach Daniel Passarella for his return to the national team.

That left Real to take on Barcelona having lost all three home games this season.

■ BARCELONA'S Jordi Cruyff is expected to be out injured for six months after tearing cartilage in his knee.

English lesson for Toshack

JOHN TOSHACK taught a lesson by an English teacher? The wry jokes started after Tosh's new team, Deportivo, had opened their campaign with a crushing 3-0 win over Valencia.

They then took on lowly Compostela in Santiago in the Galician derby and were thrashed 4-0! Brazilian Fabiano, Nigerian Christopher Ohen and former Deportivo player Jose Ramon scored the historic goals, but most of the credit went to Compostela's new teacher-manager, Fernando Vazquez.

As a player, Vazquez managed a few appearances in the heady heights of the Third Division and, at 40, he seemed destined for a coaching career at similar altitudes. His high points had been taking Lalin up to Division 2B in 1991 and repeating the feat with Racing Ferrol a year later.

So it was a major surprise when he was signed from another Div 2B side, Lugo, to take over from Fernando Santos. His life is so geared to part-time professionalism that he still finishes training at lunchtime and then gives English classes at a local secondary school in the afternoons.

Ref errors ignored

RACING SANTANDER's bid to have their game in Gijon replayed has been turned down by the Spanish Federation, anxious to avoid the confrontations FIFA had with the national associations in Germany and Portugal, following decisions to replay fixtures badly affected by refereeing errors.

Racing went racing to the complaints department after their 4-2 defeat by Sporting. With the score at 0-0, Racing skipper Quique Setient struck a fine shot just inside the far post.

The referee, Jose Enrique Rubio Valdivieso (that's just him, not the full list of match officials), pointed to the centre spot, but was called by a linesman who, from a position near the corner flag, insisted that the ball had not gone into the goal.

The ref promptly converted it into a goal-kick for Gijon.

A few minutes later, Sporting's international striker Julio Salinas hardly lived up to the name of his new club. He scored with a hand, having previously fouled the Racing keeper.

Goal, said Rubio Valdivieso, who has now been put 'on ice' for three months.

Political football

Nick Bidwell profiles Bayern Munich's Swiss international Alain Sutter, the man behind the anti-nuclear banner at the Sweden-Switzerland Euro '96 qualifier

DON'T MENTION the name of French president Jacques Chirac within earshot of Bayern Munich's Swiss international midfielder Alain Sutter.

Sutter was so outraged that the French had resumed nuclear testing in the South Pacific that he decided to add his voice to the worldwide chorus of protest. Before Switzerland's Euro '96 qualifier in Sweden, he and several team-mates unfurled a banner reading 'Stop It Chirac'. Not much sign of traditional Swiss neutrality.

"To my mind, it wasn't a political demonstration," explained Sutter. "It was simply an expression of basic human rights. We are against the earth being contaminated. Politics does not come into it.

"We are trying to get across the idea that, as human beings, our fate is tied up for better or for worse with nature. If nature is destroyed, mankind will cease to exist. There will be no more football and no need for politicians. Nothing will be left. That's why we are angry with the French. Organising this small gesture was something I felt I had to do."

Such views, though, were not shared by Switzerland's captain Alain Geiger, who once played in France for Saint-Etienne. "I cannot see any justification whatsoever for the protest," he declared. "I don't think sport and politics should ever be mixed. France has the right to do as it pleases on their territory. It's nothing to do with us footballers.

"It certainly wasn't a case of the whole national team being involved in the demonstration. Many of us didn't know anything about it."

Swiss federation president Marcel Mathier was equally annoyed. "I would never deny players the right to have political opinions," he commented. "Indeed, it's a good thing. But players should not have abused the hospitality of our Swedish hosts, or have used the national team shirt to make political demands."

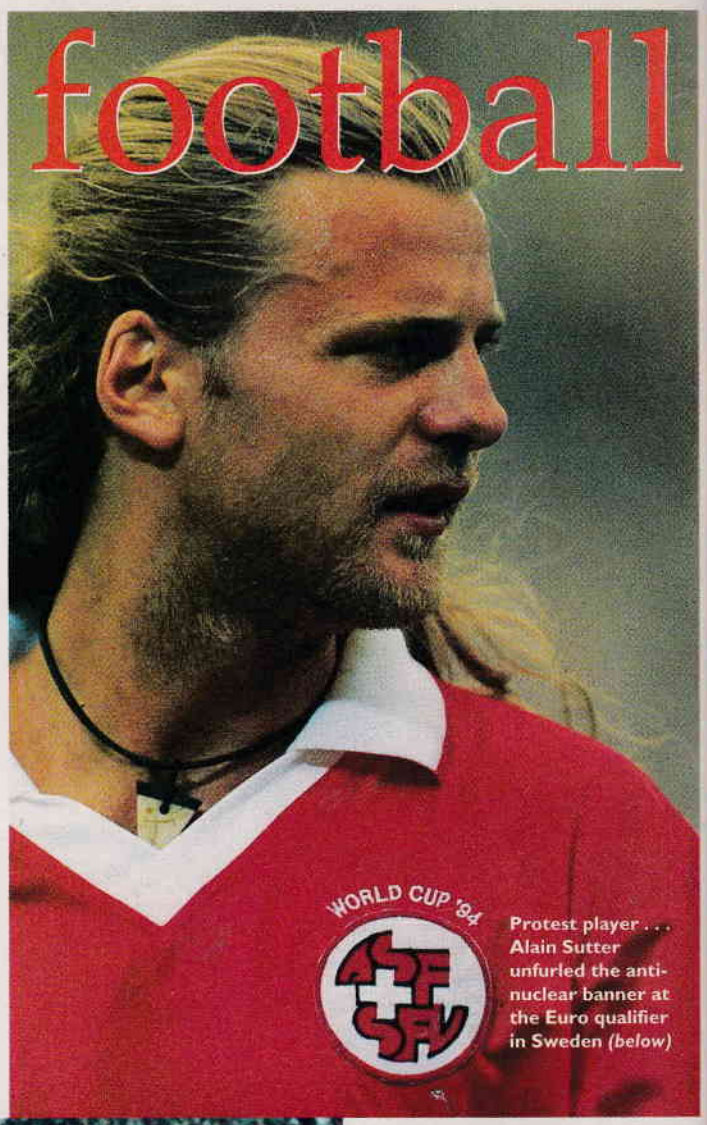
Those who disagree with Sutter's anti-nuke stance in Sweden might argue he would do better to channel his energies into resurrecting his faltering career at Bayern Munich. He has hardly featured at all this season in the plans of new Bayern coach Otto Rehhagel.

So why is a player of Sutter's undoubted class struggling to make an impact at club level? The simple answer is that he has been squeezed out by intense competition for places. These days, Bayern are awash with creative talent, with a midfield quintet of German internationals Christian Ziege, Thomas Strunz and Mehmet Scholl, plus Austrian playmaker Andy Herzog and Swiss national team star Ciriaco Sforza.

Like Bayern's former German Under-21 skipper Christian Nerlinger, Sutter is more often than not surplus to requirements in midfield.

Nor is Alain's cause helped by the fact that he is one of half-a-dozen foreigners scrapping for the three available first-team berths. While Herzog and Sforza – bought last summer from Werder Bremen and Kaiserslautern respectively for a total of £6.5 million – seem guaranteed to start most weeks, Sutter, Bulgarian striker Emil Kostadinov, French hit-man Jean-Pierre Papin *(see opposite)* and promising young Ghanaian stopper Samuel Kuffour must contest the one remaining place.

It's a game for gamblers, with the odds firmly stacked against Sutter, and the best he can hope for is a spot on the bench.



Protest player . . . Alain Sutter unfurled the anti-nuclear banner at the Euro qualifier in Sweden *(below)*

Times are decidedly tough for Sutter, but even his most dedicated fans would be hard-pressed to describe his form as being anything other than disappointing since arriving at Bayern Munich from Nurnberg in a £1m deal in 1994.

Great things had been expected of him in Bayern colours. Shortly before beginning life with the 'Munchner', Alain had starred for his country at USA '94 and had earned the honour of being classed as the Bundesliga's third-best player in the half-year rankings of German magazine *Kicker*. Unfortunately, he only rarely lived up to the advance publicity, appearing in 22 League games and scoring just once in the 94-95 campaign.

"We thought Alain Sutter would be a very influential figure both on and off the pitch," said Bayern vice-president Karl-Heinz Rummenigge at the end of last season. "But he did nothing. He hasn't impressed us at all. There's no other way to put it. The best solution would be for him to find another club."

Harsh words. But Sutter has not heeded the advice. Instead, he has opted to battle on at Bayern.

"I am not one to make excuses, but there were good reasons why last season did not turn out particularly well for me," Sutter counters. "People forget I was out for a lengthy spell because of a virus and lost six kilos in weight. It took me quite a while to recover from that illness.

"Secondly, I was often played out of position by Bayern's coach last season, Giovanni Trapattoni. I was used many times as a replacement for the injured Jean-Pierre Papin up front, but it's not a role that suits me well. I am a left-sided attacking midfielder. Not a striker.

"I am under contract to Bayern until 1997. I intend to stay put and show everyone I am not a flop. It won't be easy for me to win a regular spot in the starting line-up, but I hope to have another chance to establish myself in the first team. I haven't lost faith in my ability."

Germany

Papin in trouble

Jean-Pierre Papin's days at Bayern Munich may be numbered – he hopes

BAYERN MUNICH'S record-breaking start to the season was brought to a standstill by champions Borussia Dortmund three days after an angry salvo against coach Otto Rehhagel by Jean-Pierre Papin.

After seven straight victories, Bayern went down 3-1 and also finished the match without Jurgen Klinsmann, who was knocked unconscious in a collision with keeper Stefan Klos. Klinsmann was released from hospital the next day.

That meant no quick way back for Papin, who was infuriated when Rehhagel first substituted him in a game against Bayer Leverkusen, then preferred to start with Bulgarian Emil Kostadinov for Bayern's remarkable UEFA Cup rescue act against Lokomotiv Moscow.

Papin, fit again after six months overcoming knee surgery, said: "The coach is the problem. And if the situation doesn't change I want to leave. I want an explanation why I don't play. But the coach doesn't talk to us, he doesn't talk to anyone.

"I am at the stage in my career when I can't wait any longer. My knee is fine, but to show that I need to see the ball."

Papin is facing other pressures. He recently took his five-year-old disabled daughter to New York for brain surgery. But his comments about his situation at Bayern were too much for Franz Beckenbauer, the club's president, who said: "Sometimes I think I am in a kindergarten. Papin cannot behave like a child. Does he really expect Otto Rehhagel to sit each player on his knee and listen to him whingeing?

"Whatever happens, he's not going to be allowed to leave. We need him."

Rehhagel, who has surprised some of the players with his relatively formal, autocratic style, was unconcerned about Papin, saying: "If he wants to complain, let him. If I have to make tactical changes, that's my business. I don't have to spend hours talking to each player."

Disappointing results in European competition – Bayern's sensational 1-0 home first leg defeat by Lokomotiv Moscow, Dortmund crashing 3-1 in the Champions League to their bogey team Juventus, Freiburg's UEFA Cup exit to Slavia Prague – provoked instant inquests into the state of German football.

The most sarcastic comment came from the former manager, now newspaper columnist, the outspoken Max Markel: "German football is still breathing, but it is no longer alive. It is certainly not as good as generally presented. The most important reason is that managers and players fail to recognise the facts and are unable, or unwilling, to admit their own mistakes. They all look for cheap excuses instead."

National team boss Berti Vogts didn't mince his words either: "It was certainly an eyeopener for all those blinkered experts who still persist in overrating our football. It is useless looking for scapegoats, for we all carry the blame and responsibility for the decline in our standards and fortunes. There is too much talk about bad luck.

"When will we admit at last that other countries have caught up and some have overtaken us. To successfully compete we must return to our traditional strengths – fighting spirit, initiative and discipline. Let's hope that the bitter lessons of that dreadful start in European competitions strike home."

Everybody is agreed that German football lacks personalities of the calibre of a Franz Beckenbauer, Paul Breitner, Wolfgang Overath, or Gunter Netzer. Generally, the German football fraternity has condemned the feeble attempts to explain away the lamentable displays. At least now even the chauvinistic commentators are treading more carefully before making over-optimistic predictions of easy wins.

Meanwhile the national team improved its chances of qualifying for the European Championship finals - thanks to a 4-1 win over Georgia in Nuremberg, although it hung in the balance after a poor performance in the first half. Once again several regulars were absent through injury and suspension like Stefan Reuter, Matthias Sammer, Mario Basler, Heiko Herrlich and Andy Kopke. Among the seven defensive players there were five from Bayern Munich and two from Dortmund.

But the man of the match was the little schemer Thomas Hassler, from Karlsruher SC, whose crosses and free kicks, mobility and speed off the mark caused the opposition considerable problems. It was one of his best of the 65 internationals he has played in.

Klinsmann, earning his 75th cap, didn't score and missed chances, but fought as usual for every ball. Vogts is still looking for a suitable partner for him up front and the choice now lies between Ulf Kirsten and Herrlich. Meanwhile the clamour for the recall of the old timer 35-year-old Rudi Voller has been silenced.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Austria

Baric quits

AUSTRIAN football experienced the first sensation of the season when champions Austria Salzburg parted company with the most successful manager in their history, the Croat Otto Baric.

Following the elimination in the Champions Cup qualifying round by Romania's Steau Bucharest and a 3-0 League defeat at the hands of FK Austria, Baric complained: "We are no longer a team, some of the players have become too arrogant. Now I can't motivate them any more."

For some time some top stars, including internationals Heimo Pfeifenberger and Wolfgang Feiersinger, have been stirring up trouble against the coach.

They encouraged the undisciplined behaviour which contributed to the debacle against FK Austria. Club president Rudolf Quehenberger described the action as "work refusal" and this persuaded Baric to leave.

His successor is Hermann Stessl, 55, a championship winner with FK Austria and one of the most successful coaches in the country. Meanwhile Baric is taking a holiday back home in Croatia, but will return to Austria.

Should the national team fail to reach the European Championship finals he would be the first candidate to succeed the national team manager Herbert Prohaska.

The team still has a chance to qualify for England. After the second 3-1 win over the Republic of Ireland (featuring a hat-trick by Peter Soger), they are in the driving seat for at least second place in Group 6.

FK Austria have problems following the resignation of Beppo Mauthart as chief of the club's sponsors, a tobacco manufacturer. Mauthart, who is also president of the Austrian FA, was instrumental in the engagement of the German coach Horst Hrubesch, whose place is now under threat.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Switzerland

All eyes now on England

THE national team boosted their chances of reaching the European Championship finals when they secured a goalless draw away in Sweden.

This effectively eliminated the Scandinavians from the competition, while the Swiss will have to wait and see if they qualify outright as group winners, or successful runners-up, or whether they will have to travel to Liverpool for a play-off match with another lowly runner up.

But amid the euphoria a sour note was struck by the political demonstration before the match. Instigated by forward Alain Sutter of Bayern Munich, the Swiss team unfurled a banner with the inscription 'Stop it Chirac', thus registering their protest against France's nuclear tests in the Pacific.

Since the players didn't notify the FA, nor manager Roy Hodgson of their intention, the officials were furious and even the UEFA Disciplinary committee threatened fines and warnings that sport must not meddle in politics.

Opinions are divided on the subject, but prominent commentators are concerned that this example could be copied by others who have an axe to grind for whatever reason and thus spoil a sporting occasion.

In the championship Sion led the way after nine rounds, but Grasshopper, with two games in hand, were better placed. Injuries have affected the champions, who suffered a demoralising 3-0 home defeat by Hungary's Ferencvaros and a 2-0 loss in Madrid in the UEFA Champions League, which seriously damaged their chances of progress.

At least the Hoppers will benefit from the financial bonanza like no other Swiss club before them.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

France

Gili has a third go

GERARD GILI is back at Marseille for his third spell, but now it's virtually a question of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

When he first took over in 1988, it was all something of a fairy tale. He had been running the youth team, and the ineffable Bernard Tapie, in one of his more inspired moments, plucked him out of the chorus to run a flagging and demoralised first side. With remarkable results – Marseille recovered to win the championship.

Gili lasted a couple of years before joining Bordeaux for a less successful spell. His next experience at Marseille was short but far from sweet. It lasted just two weeks, in December 1994.

Now here he is again with the club, who should have been promoted last season but could not be because they were bankrupt, and struggling in Division Two.

Gili knows it is going to take quite a while to put the club together again. A midweek friendly win against Nice was followed by a clear defeat away to Mulhouse, where all sorts of deficiencies showed. Gili now has a two-year contract and could well take all of that to get Marseille back where, surely and traditionally, they should be.

Gili says he has been surprised by the bad feeling between certain players, the incompatibility between them, and the great difference in "serenity" between training sessions and the actual games. Although, with the departure of the previous manager, Stambouli, the players seem a lot happier and more committed.

According to Gili, his job – the actual English word he uses – is to get the team together again and give them confidence. The players' job, he adds, is to win games without keeping an eye all the time on the League positions.

"We must first rediscover the way to play before we go for other objectives," he says. "I shall rely on the players who have the same feelings as me. It matters little whether they may be young or old."

Dely Valdes, the gold-toothed Panamanian, is not really either, at 28, but how Marseille could do with a player like him!

He is not a George Weah – they have very different ways of going about their scoring – but he has been an inspired buy from Cagliari.

While Weah scored eight goals in the European Cup for Paris Saint-Germain last season – before foundering horribly and controversially in that second-leg semi-final in Milan – he managed no more than a mere seven in the League. Valdes had five goals after his first seven games, although injury now threatens to sideline him for at least a month.

Of course, he gets his goals somewhat differently to Weah.

"Comparisons are useless," says his new manager, Luis Fernandez. "George was more athletic. His power enabled him to press on opposing defences and find the way to goal. Julio is more feline. He has the sense of a goal. Very much there in the penalty box, and brings off all the good chances. He is a real goal scorer, and his first games in the championship show it."

Dely Valdes is a modest fellow, and is very nice about Weah. "He is a good player and it's logical that a man who has written a page in a club's history should have an important place there. As for me, I am here to do my best, to prove my value on the field. I've already shown that I don't shirk my responsibilities.

"With Cagliari, I had to follow the Uruguayan, Enzo Francescoli. And it went pretty well." He thinks his present team one of the best in Europe. He had always wanted to play in the Italian Championship, going there from Nacional of Montevideo. And now he is happy to be in France.

Not bad for a player whose country of origin has never impinged on world football.

Things are not so good for Nantes and they must have had mixed feeling when Christian Karembeu, having scored for Sampdoria on his first League appearance, put in a couple more in a 3-0 home win against a bewildered Parma. Karembeu may be even more of a loss to the champions than Patrice 'Loco' Loko. The New Caledonian has been the personification of Total Football for Sampdoria.

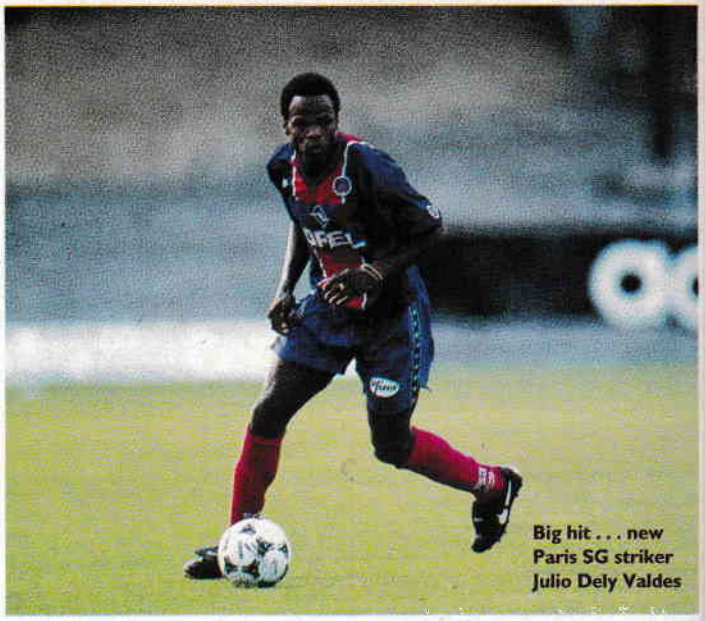
This amiable, gifted player has been an instant success in Genoa, where he cheerfully spoke to the fans and insisted to journalists that he wanted to conduct all his interviews in Italian. He seems to have adapted with amazing speed, though as he admits the initial adaption to life and football in France was hard in the extreme. To move from France to Italy obviously was not as traumatic.

At least Nantes, after an awful 4-1 crash in Bastia, saved a little bit of pride a few days later, when holding Porto of Portugal to a goalless draw. But last season Nantes would have expected to win such home games. That draw, however, was gained without several key players, including young striker Ouedec, who has so much to do now that Loko has gone.

No luck for the free-scoring Stephane Guivarc'h, who did so well last season with Guingamp, in the Second Division. He was sold to Auxerre in the summer, but soon needed a leg operation. Which gave still another chance to an Auxerre forward who has been in and out of the team for some time: Lilian Laslandes.

At 24, he is young enough to establish himself, and win over a crowd who like his rival, Baticle.

ANDRE DUCLOS



Big hit . . . new Paris SG striker Julio Dely Valdes

Holland

All eyes on Ajax

AFTER six games of the Dutch League Premier Division, Ajax are on top with maximum points, and have extended their magnificent unbeaten run to 42 games.

They've got to be the champions again. Or have they?

In the opening stages of the season Ajax did fewer things the right way than they would have wished – and simply got away with the points with a bit of luck thrown in.

Yet the Dutch League has very few clubs capable of hitting the high spots. We have Feyenoord and PSV, but how many others are there?

There is a feeling in Dutch football that what has been seen as automatic – Ajax's title – will be a fight until the very end of the season.

So, who could be up there on the final run-in? Funny things can happen at the start of a new season. PSV and Feyenoord both lost a game they should have won and Feyenoord sacked coach Wim Van Hanegem after the 3-0 defeat to PSV. Geert Meijer, his assistant, has taken over.

Last season FC Twente and Roda JC surprised Holland by good runs that at one stage suggested they might even be in the running for the title. But anyone who dares to tip a team from lower down the table for champions must be crazy. The second half of the season will begin to show us a lot more.

PSV recovered from a poor start and look like achieving what coach Dick Advocaat knows has to be done when turning a group of top-class individuals into a real team.

Advocaat will achieve that, but a greater challenge is likely to come from Feyenoord, despite, or perhaps because of, Van Hanegem's departure.

The signing of one star player is never enough to guarantee success. But Feyenoord have a bigger and better squad than last season.

The influence of Ronald Koeman, 32 years old and already with 68 European games behind him, to say nothing of his experience as a Dutch international, will surely influence the future of Feyenoord. Koeman himself will not accept that. But many others in the group have the feeling that although he is not the captain, in many ways he will be.

Peter Bosz remains the hard man of the team, which earned him a two-match suspension by the Dutch FA, but with Orlando Trustfull playing as a midfielder-cum-support striker for Swedish international Henrik Larsson, the Feyenoord system has already changed, and Trustfull himself talks of the respect the team has for Ronald Koeman.

Being an Amsterdammer himself, perhaps what Orlando Trustfull is doing is sending a quiet message to the Dutch capital.

ERIC NICHOLLS

Belgium

Brugge making the running

AS THOUGH to show that actions do indeed speak as loud as words, Club Brugge are making the early running in pursuit of a first title triumph for four years.

They were the only club during the summer to issue any threatening noises in the direction of Anderlecht, whose domestic monopoly was becoming tedious.

Although coach Hugo Broos has been prevented from naming a full-strength squad for most games – injuries have deprived him of Paul Okon, his Australian sweeper, and international midfielder Lorenzo Staelens – the handicaps have not proved insurmountable.

"I want more competition for places in my team," Broos had declared before the season, and he has got his wish.

His most pleasing victory so far has been the 2-0 success away to newly-promoted Harelbeke, who had made a promising start under Henk Houwaart, formerly the Brugge coach. The goals were a Croatian double act, coming from Ojisek Sephar and Mario Stanic.

Signed from Benfica in the summer, Stanic then took his total to 11 goals in nine games to become, by quite some distance, the League's leading scorer.

How national team coach Paul Van Himst could do with such improvisation!

Georges Grun scored a decent enough goal against Denmark but a combination of bizarre mistakes and mishaps gave the Danes a 3-1 win, which effectively ends Belgium's hopes of qualifying for the European Championship finals.

There was not much consolation in the European club competitions, either. Anderlecht are long gone from the Champions Cup, despite the expulsion of Kiev Dynamo, and Portuguese opponents ended the UEFA Cup hopes of both Standard Liege and Lierse.

Standard could not make up a 3-1 first-leg deficit against Vitoria Guimaraes, drawing 0-0, while Lierse went out 5-2 on aggregate to Benfica.

That left Eendracht Aalst as Belgium's lone UEFA Cup representatives, after a 3-1 aggregate win over Levski Sofia.

NICK HARLING

IN BRIEF

IN MALTA . . . the 81st season had some early surprises. Champions Hibernians were unexpectedly held to a 1-1 draw by unfancied Naxxar Lions, then made amends by thrashing Rabat Ajax 4-1 in their second outing. Premier new boys St Patrick registered a well-earned 2-1 victory over Zurrieq, before losing 3-1 to Valletta, who got off to a fine start, beating Hamrun Spartans 1-0 and St Patrick 3-1 to join Sliema at the top.

Carmel Busuttil, donning the Maltese jersey for a record-breaking 77th time, led the national side to a 2-1 win against Albania in a friendly. Success was short-lived, as Malta again crumbled in Luxembourg. They have only two points from eight matches in the Euro '96 qualifiers. *DOMENICO AQUILINA*

IN LUXEMBOURG . . . the transformation of the national side over the last six months has been, in coach Paul Philipp's own words, "exciting and worthy". A 1-0 win in Malta was followed by another 1-0 win, against the Czech Republic, and now another, 1-0 against Malta at home.

The season kicked off with impressive 5-0 victories for Dudelange and Jeunesse, against Rodange and Spora respectively. Carlo Weis's new team, Sporting Mertzig, also made an explosive start, winning 4-0 at Red Boys, and Aris drew 3-3 with Grevenmacher. *TIM BRICE*

IN LIECHTENSTEIN . . . seven minutes was all that lay between defeat and another point for the national side. Latvia scored in the 83rd minute after Liechtenstein had shown signs of recovery from their 7-0 whitewash against Portugal. The country's only European entrant, Vaduz, crashed heavily out of the Cup-winners Cup, losing 14-1 on aggregate to Hradlec Kralove of the Czech Republic. *TIM BRICE*

IN ISRAEL . . . September proved one of the bleakest months in recent memory as the national side and top clubs all failed on the European stage.

Israel travelled to Slovakia needing a win to keep their Euro '96 prospects alive in Group 1. The 1-0 scoreline failed to do justice to the Slovakians' domination.

There was no such let-off in the meetings between Hapoel Beersheba and Barcelona. The Catalan stars ran out 12-0 aggregate winners. The agony continued as Maccabi Haifa – generally reckoned to be Israel's top club side – fell to a 4-0 aggregate defeat at the hands of Sporting Lisbon.

Some respite came when the national side played Uruguay in Jerusalem as part of the city's 3,000th anniversary celebrations, and deservedly ended 3-1 winners.

On the home front champions Maccabi Tel Aviv lead the field after three rounds of action on goal difference from Hapoel Tel Avi and Betar Jerusalem. All three sides have taken maximum points so far. *DEREK FATTAL*

Republic of Ireland

New boss starts in style

LOSING your manager a week before the start of the League season is certainly not the ideal preparation. But Sligo Rovers, who lost Lawrie Sanchez to Wimbledon just before the FAI National League Premier Division began, have made light of their problems.

Sanchez recommended former colleague Steve Cotterill to the Sligo directors and the new man has slotted into the manager's role with ease. Sligo have been the early pacesetters, and after five games were joint leaders with Bohemians, Derry City and Shelbourne.

Sanchez had taken several new players to the club, including former Irish international Mark Kelly and Ian Gilzean, son of the Spurs and Scotland striker Alan.

Injured Sligo players spend 40 minutes each day breathing pure oxygen at the Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre in Sligo. "They say it's not particularly pleasant and feel a bit tired afterwards, but it's certainly worth it," says Cotterill.

All 10 clubs in the First Division are now professional. St James Gate, winners of the inaugural League of Ireland back in 1922, went out of League football in 1944 and rejoined five years ago. This season they are using Shelbourne's Tolka Park while a new stand is being built at their Iveagh Grounds.

Home Farm, who replaced Drumcondra in 1972, have abandoned their amateur status by linking with Everton and are now officially known as Home Farm Everton.

With Monaghan United switching on their new floodlights, only three clubs, Shamrock Rovers, Bray Wanderers and Limerick, are now in the dark. Rovers had lights at Glenmalure Park, their former home, but they now rent the RDS showjumping grounds.

The FAI has lined up two friendlies for next spring. On March 27 the Republic visit the Czech Republic, while on April 24 there is a match in Switzerland. Games against Denmark and Germany are also pencilled in, and the FAI hopes to celebrate its 70th anniversary with a home game against world champions Brazil.

SEAN CREEDON

Portugal

People power ousts Jorge

BENFICA coach Artur Jorge lost his job with the season only three games old – because of a revolt by the fans.

The 'socios' still wield considerable power in Portugal, and Jorge had never been a popular choice. So, after unexpected draws at home to Salgueiros and Guimaraes, the people had had enough.

Chairman Damasio, who had been elected by the socios, was confronted by several hundred of them as he tried to leave the ground after the Guimaraes game. Eventually they were persuaded to let Damasio go home, on condition that he returned the next day with a decision about what should be done.

The fans got their wish. Damasio duly turned up again, after a sleepless night, with the news that Jorge was out, irrespective of the cost of compensation.

We do not know how long his contract was, but the prospect of a pay-off obviously influenced Jorge – or he would have resigned long ago.

The affair is the latest episode in the comedy of errors at Benfica. In 1993-94 they won the title, against all odds, under Toni's management, but he was sacked and replaced by Jorge, who had just been told that Paris SG no longer wanted him.

Jorge brought his own players and assistants and a system that never worked. And now he has paid the price.

His assistant, Mario Wilson, has replaced him and started well, with victories at Amadora, home and away against Lierse of Belgium in the UEFA Cup, and at home to Belenenses.

Meanwhile, the tale of the tribunal drags on. The Portuguese FA had ordered Sporting Lisbon to pay Benfica £2.5million compensation for the 'grabbing' of Paulo Sousa (now at Juventus) and Pacheco (a recent trialist with Aston Villa).

Sporting claim that they cannot afford it. Benfica demand payment. FIFA and UEFA are involved but no ruling has been forthcoming.

Another example of how the days of a player's lengthy loyalty to one club are long gone: I recently inquired about a man due to sign for a Portuguese club, and asked: "Where does he come from?" The answer was very clear: "He belongs to Barbosa."

Barbosa is an agent.

ALBERTO DA SILVA

Sweden

Svensson stays in charge

TOMMY SVENSSON will stay in charge of he national team, despite Sweden's failure to qualify for the European Championship.

"At first I questioned my own motivation to continue," he admits. "But I intend to go on until the 1998 World Cup in France. We have such good memories from last year's finals in the USA. Swedish fans deserve another party like that."

At least the local media back Svensson. In a recent survey, more than 70 per cent of the country's sports journalists thought that he is still the right man for the job.

Injuries will not leave Svensson's old guard alone. IFK goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli was absent from the decisive goalless draw against Switzerland, and Helsingborg full-back Roland Nilsson is out with a long-term injury.

Malmo beat Nottingham Forest 2-1 in the UEFA Cup, only to lose 1-0 in the return leg at the City Ground and go out on the away goals rule. The tie revived memories of the 1979 Champions Cup Final. Many rated midfielder Robert Prytz as man of the match.

Prytz, now 35 and the only player left from that final in Munich 16 years ago, says: "I haven't yet decided whether to hang up my boots or to go on for another season. Right now I enjoy playing so much that I may be plugging away next year as well."

PENTTI HIETANEN

Norway

Brann back from the brink

BRANN of Bergen certainly didn't have much to cheer about earlier this year. A dramatic first half of the season ended with the sacking of coach Halvard Thoresen.

The board of the club finally lost their patience after a series of disappointing results. To his defence it must be said that he was very unfortunate with injuries to key players.

Kjell Tennfjord was appointed as his successor and the fanatical supporters of Bergen didn't have to wait long for the change.

The team suddenly started to work as a unit. After a string of victories the club moved out of the relegation zone, and after a fine cup run they were rewarded with a place in the Cup Final against Rosenborg.

Rosenborg easily defeated Hodd in their semi-final. The away match was won 5-0, making the return leg a mere formality. Brann and Lillestrom fought out a much tougher battle in the other semi-final.

Lillestrom won 3-1 at home after goals from Stale Solbakken and Kare Ingebrigtsen (2) and seemed to be cruising in the second leg in Bergen with a 1-0 lead at half-time.

Frank Strandli equalised for Brann, then Per Ove Ludvigsen and Strandli put them level on aggregate. In pelting rain Geir Hasund forced the decisive goal a few minutes from time.

Rosenborg won the First Division championship well before the run-in after an impressive run of results and gradually increased the gap on runners-up Molde.

Most clubs are now planning for the 1996 season. Start have offered Englishman Steve Perryman a new contract despite his team's erratic form. They may lose striker Petter Beisvik to England but should sign homesick Strandli from Brann.

SIGURD ODEGAARD

Iceland

KR put up a courageous fight in the Cup-winners Cup, losing 6-3 on aggregate to Everton after a 3-2 defeat in Reykjavik.

The performance gave a welcome lift to national soccer confidence, 48 hours after champions IA Akranes had crashed out of the UEFA Cup to Raith Rovers.

National coach Asegeir Eliasson has decided to call it a day after four years. His successor is Logi Olafsson, who steered unfancied Vikungur to the First Division title in 1991 and has just led the side to a fourth consecutive title with three rounds of the title race to go.

In the Icelandic (Milk) Cup, KR retained the silverware for the second year in a row, with a 2-1 win over relegation-haunted Fram.

The result was yet another triumph for coach Gudjon Thordarson, whose record of three League titles, two Cups, and one Second Division title has made him beyond doubt the country's most successful coach ever.

RAB CHRISTIE

Kamark sets sights on double

PONTUS KAMARK, the latest foreign recruit in English football, is aiming for a rare championship double.

Kamark, aged 26, a regular defender for IFK Gothenburg and – more recently – Sweden, has set his sights on a Swedish League medal with IFK Gothenburg and an Endsleigh First Division title with Leicester City.

But the Gothenburg skipper has insisted on staying in Sweden for the last six League matches as his club close in on the title.

"After seven years with Gothenburg I felt the time was right for a change but I want to help them win the championship before leaving," explained Kamark. "I will come to Leicester at the end of October and try to win a title with them too."

A couple of French clubs showed interest in Kamark, but he chose an £800,000 move to Leicester after seeing their Filbert Street home.

"Leicester made a very fair offer and when I saw the ground I felt the chemistry was right," he said.

Leaving IFK . . . Leicester new boy Pontus Kamark

"I also felt the club had a good manager in Mark McGhee."

Leicester, relegated from the FA Premiership last season, are aiming for an immediate return to the top flight, and have made an impressive start.

Denmark

Bo on the go

A COACH from arch-rivals Sweden is Denmark's surprise choice to follow national team manager Richard Moller Nielsen.

The job has been given to the highly-respected, much-travelled Bo Johansson, who led Silkeborg to the Danish Superliga title in 1994, and is now in Finland with HJK Helsinki.

Moller Nielsen had announced that he would retire after next summer's Euro Championships, and the Danish FA has acted swiftly to make sure there is an easy succession.

Four names were on the DBU short-list: Johansson, former Scotland manager Andy Roxburgh, Swiss national coach Roy Hodgson, and Denmark's record-capped international Morten Olsen, recently sacked by German club Koln.

But Olsen was not even contacted, and Johansson was always first choice after his exploits with Silkeborg.

Surprisingly, the announcement did not cause major dissent despite the long rivalry between the countries.

Johansson said: "I was amazed to be offered the job, but I don't think my nationality will be a problem. I have always had great friends in the Danish League, and I think people like me and like my style.

"Of course it is a huge challenge. National team coaches seem to face huge pressures and expectations these days, but I can cope with that."

In the midst of all the off-the-field manoeuvres, the national team secured a crucial 3-1 victory in Belgium to make qualification for Euro'96 very likely.

It was a fortunate triumph in Brussels, secured thanks to some brilliant goalkeeping from Peter Schmeichel and a gift goal. But isn't that the art of qualifying?

At home, the surprise League leaders are GF Aarhus, based on a solid defence marshalled by former Liverpool player Torben Piechnik. They remain the only unbeaten club in the Superliga. OB Odense are second, while champions Aab Aalborg, dramatic late entrants into the UEFA Champions League *(see page 18)* slumped to fifth.

JIM HOLDEN

Russia

Beskov quits Dynamo

KONSTANTIN BESKOV resigned as Moscow Dynamo manager after his team were beaten by Spartak, 2-0 in a local derby at the Luzhniki Olympic stadium.

Dynamo looked almost like amateurs in the game against star-studded opponents. Beskov's team could boast only one international, Yuri Kovtun, who was eventually sent off.

The other Dynamo stars had been 'expelled' by 74-year-old Beskov. The list includes Victor Leonenko and Yuri Kalitvintsev (both now with Kiev Dynamo), Omari Tetradze (Spartak Vladikavkaz), and Torpedo playmaker Yevgeni Smertin.

The lack of stars and Beskov's long fight with his best players, Dmitri Cheryshev and Andrei Kobelev, who had to sit on the bench most of the time, brought the League Cup winners down to sixth place in the League with little chance of a UEFA Cup place.

Adamas Golodets, Dynamo's assistant coach, has replaced Beskov until the end of the season. Many have been mentioned as possible successors, including former national coach Anatoli Byshovets.

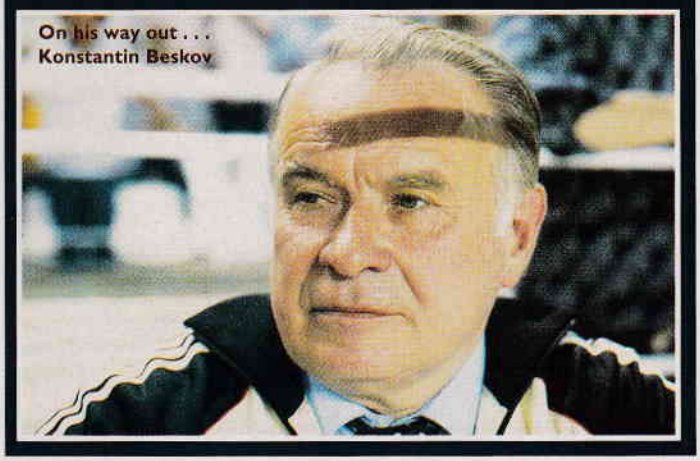
Spartak Vladikavkaz were leading the League with four games to play (last round – October 28). The League's biggest surprise, Moscow Lokomotiv, were three points behind.

Second Division winners Baltika are set to join an expanded 18-team division next season, along with two others – most probably Zenit St Petersburg and Lada Togliatti.

Rotor's Oleg Veretennikov, with 25 goals, has already set a new Russian League scoring record.

Luis Andre Da Silva and Mario Dos Santos Junior, the two Brazilians signed by Lokomotiv of Nizhni Novgorod this summer, spent less than three months in Russia. They left for China, possibly in search of different style of football – and definitely warmer weather.

VICTOR GUSEV



On his way out . . . Konstantin Beskov

Turkey

Hakan on Lefter's trail

TWO GOALS by Hakan Sukur put Turkey closer to qualification for the European Championships, and narrowed the lengthy goalscoring gap left by the legendary Lefter Kucukandonyadis.

Hakan's double gave Turkey their first win over Hungary for 39 years, and left them a point behind Switzerland with two games to play, in Iceland and in Sweden. The Hungarians can do Turkey a favour when they take on the Swiss in their final match.

Unfortunately Hakan must miss the game against Iceland after receiving a second yellow card for pulling off his shirt while celebrating his second goal against Hungary.

This act of folly marred a fine display by the young striker, now settling down with Torino in the Italian League.

Two headers past goalkeeper Petry, who recently joined Turkish club Genclerbirligi, took Hakan's total goals in full internationals to 13, eight behind Lefter – who had scored twice in that celebrated victory in 1956.

On that day the Turks won 3-1 against a Hungarian team containing Puskas, Bozsik, Czibor and Lantos, who had won 15 and drawn three of their previous 18 matches.

Fatih Terim, the national coach, said: "Our last two fixtures are now more vital than ever. We must aim to top the group, and can't be satisfied at qualifying in second place."

The victory was Turkey's 13th under Terim, with four games drawn and four lost. The players all received substantial bonuses, with none more deserving than skipper Oguz Cetin of Fenerbahce, who was equalling Terim's record of 51 appearances in the full international side.

Unfortunately the victory was marred by injuries to at least 25 people. Shotting guns into the air is a traditional form of celebration in some parts of Turkey, and several people, including a baby of 11 months, were hit by bullets.

Trabzonspor are the only Turkish club left in Europe, their 2-2 away draw against Lithuania's Vilnius preceding a 1-0 home victory.

Galatasaray and Besiktas had gone out at the preliminary-round stage, and Fenerbahce followed, losing 2-1 at home to Real Betis and 2-0 in Spain.

Galatasaray manager Souness has signed yet another player – American goalkeeper Brad Friedel, at a cost of £1.3million over two years – and his team lead the table with 14 points from six games, one ahead of Trabzonspor.

Fenerbahce, third on goal difference, are still without the injured Atkinson, but won at Kocaelispor for the first time in 10 years. Bolic scored the only goal.

A match between Turkish All-Stars and a World XI – without several big names, who failed to turn up – still raised £400,000 for Bosnian children. Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and Diego Maradona were among the crowd.

HASAN CEMALI

Greece

Tsoulis treble is not enough

FIVE goals by Krzystof Warzycha were almost not enough for Panathinaikos to beat Panionios in a remarkable Greek First Division match.

Defending champions Panathinaikos had a 4-0 lead at the Olympic Stadium after an hour, only for Pantelis Tsoulis to score three in the next 17 minutes.

That's when the 14,000 Panathinaikos fans started whistling and booing their team's breakdown, and only a last-minute goal by Warzycha – he now leads the League scorers with nine – finalised the score at 5-3 and lifted the winners to their fourth straight triumph and top place in the table.

Coach Juan Ramon Rocha then revealed that he had had plans to substitute Warzycha during the match!

The Union of Greek Police Officers are seeking legal action against AEK Athens owner Michalis Trochanas, who has repeatedly criticised the police since his team's match in Thessaloniki against Aris, when an AEK fan was left paralysed and 14 others were injured during violent clashes.

AEK have sent 19 crates of medicine to Belgrade's 'children of war', with coach Dusan Bajevic saying: "It is important to offer our help to the struggle of so many people." Bajevic has also signed a contract for another five years.

LOU ECONOMPOLOULOS

Poland

Euro dreams fading fast

AFTER THE goalless draw with Romania in Zabrze, the national team are a few steps further away from the Euro '96 finals.

They have to win both away games against Slovakia and Azerbaijan and wait for Romanian victory over France to capture second place in Group 1.

There was a real euphoria in Warsaw after Legia's 3-1 triumph over Rosenborg Trondheim in the Champions League. But not for Cezary Kucharski. In 1994 he saved Siarka Tarnobrzeg from bankruptcy by 'selling himself' to German manager Heinz Gruerel.

He spent last season at Swiss club FC Aarau. Legia loaned him for one month until the end of August. And a few hours before the first Champions League he found out that the loan deal had been extended by two days due to cash problems. Kucharski is not alone. It seems to be that Polish football can not live without scandals.

Olimpia Poznan and Lechia Gdansk have merged, despite opposition from the FA. Olimpia started playing on the Lechia ground, officially announcing that their stadium was being rebuilt. GKS Katowice did not accept it and went to Poznan. Olimpia/Lechia waited in Gdansk. The game, of course, did not take place. The FA gave a walkover to GKS Katowice.

Three players have had positive drug tests this season. Two, Tomasz Kalka and Piotr Stefanowski from Second Division Naprzod Rydultowy, were banned for six months after ephedrine was found in their urine. Dariusz Dragowski, from Siarka Tarnobrzeg, failed a dope test revealing testosterone.

What will be the next scandal?

DARIUSZ KUROWSKI

Czech Republic

Progress on three fronts

A REVIVAL in national soccer fortunes is promised by progress in the European Championship and by Sparta and Slavia in the UEFA Cup and Hradec Kralove in the Cup-winners Cup.

First there is a tricky visit to Minsk for coach Dusan Uhrin's far-flung national squad. Victory would set up a grandstand group finale with the Czechs needing to defeat Luxembourg, perhaps heavily, to reach England.

The 2-0 defeat of the Norwegians in a sold-out Sparta Stadium has reduced Scandinavian chances and put the ball back in the Czechs' court. Skuhravy's sixth-minute penalty set the Czechs on the road but victory was only clinched shortly before the final whistle, by Drulak's goal.

The Czechs had little trouble with the White Russians at home but the 90th-minute Luxembourg winner when the teams first met in the Grand Duchy means there could still be room for surprises.

Two wins are needed in an uncertain situation in which the Dutch entertain Norway on the last day. Seldom has a Luxembourg away tie been sold out weeks in advance!

Cup-winners Cup representatives Hradec reached round two, but are unlikely to go much further. They added to their home rout of FC Copenhagen with a good performance in Denmark to go through 7-2 on aggregate. Now they meet Moscow Dynamo, not the team of old but still a test for the Eastern Bohemian club, who have the advantage of the second leg at their own All Sports Stadium. Whether the police will permit a capacity 25,000 attendance remains to be seen but clearly the result in Moscow will influence whether sold-out notices have to be prepared.

Slavia's UEFA Cup tie with shock qualifiers Lugano is also intriguing. If the Red and Whites can get through and Sparta see off Zimbrau Chisinau of Moldova, there is a chance of an all-Prague 'Big S' Euro derby. Mitropa Cup historians will have their record books out if the unlikeliest of ties comes to fruition.

For the moment, Prague fans will have to be content with League matters. Few will expect Drnovice and Liberec to continue at the top, but Hradec cannot match their European performances in the League and are just off a relegation place, and Slavia remain sluggish below mid-table.

Gates continue to be very modest, with averages distorted by the remarkable spectator figures in Brno. Over 17,000 saw Boby defeat bottom-placed fellow-Moravians Uherske Hradiste, promoted but seemingly bound to go straight down, probably with an equally ailing Zlin.

Sparta remain favourites for the title, inevitably, and this season's race could well become a one-club affair. Interest will be in Europe, and that means enormous pressure on the Sparta and Slavia players.

BOB VAUGHAN

Romania

Anghel eyes England

THE goalless draw in Chrozow means Romania are nearly there. A goal would have completed the task, but coach Anghel Iordanescu is sure of one of the first two places in Euro '96 Group 1.

Four yellow cards were part of the price in front of a hostile Gornik crowd, who saw a match similar to the scoreless draw Romania gained in St Etienne.

One of three countries can join Romania in the finals or in the Anfield play-off. The Romanians cannot be caught if they win at home to France, which would severely dent Gallic chances.

The outlook in Champions League Group C is less encouraging after Steaua's heavy defeat in Turin. What 'The Star' now manage in Dortmund and Glasgow probably will not be enough.

Coach Dumitru will have his work cut out while keeping his team top of the domestic League, where goalscoring has been proving difficult. One sufficed at home to 'U' Craiova but he had to be satisfied with a draw away to Dinamo.

In fairness the first seven games were negotiated without defeat during the period of preparations for the Champions League. Steaua were in the lead for 16 minutes at Dinamo. Rosu put them ahead but Csik Junior equalised.

While the champions were losing in Italy and Cup-holders Petrolu were going out to Rapid Vienna, the national squad were en route to Brazil a 'B' international without the two clubs' players. Why the FA sanctioned such a game is hard to fathom.

BOB VAUGHAN

Bulgaria

All fall at the first

A DEPRESSING European week ended with all the Bulgarian clubs eliminated from this season's main competitions, and not one making it to the second-round draw.

Botev managed a 1-1 draw with Sevilla in Plovdiv without ever looking likely to be able to repair the damage done in Spain. Champions Levski went out to Eendracht Aalst, a Euro minnow, when the surprising defeat in Sofia was followed by another in Flanders.

Even more surprising was Lok's failure to score in Sweden. Halmstad had been beaten in Sofia but managed the minimum victory needed in the second leg to complete a whitewash of Bulgarian representation.

First priority is now Dimitar Penev's national squad and the European Championship. Bulgaria still need points, though apart from the Germans the opposition has all but been seen off.

There remains the question of first place in Group 7, and seeding, which probably will be decided in Berlin in November. Stoichkov's early goal in Albania has all but put his country in the finals, but after such a good run Bulgaria would wish to avoid the unlikely fate of being one of the two poorest runners-up who have to play off.

In the League, three Sofia clubs, Lok, Levski and Slavia, chase unbeaten leaders Neftochimik, whose striker Perkos leads the goalscorers.

BOB VAUGHAN

IN BRIEF

IN HUNGARY . . . with Euro '96 long since written off, Ferencvaros have been left to fly the Hungarian flag in Europe. The unexpected removal of Belgian champions Anderlecht in the qualifying round put Fradi into the big league, and they did surprisingly well in Zurich, beating Grasshopper 3-0.

It was a different tale when Ajax came to town, and with Madrid next, even the most optimistic must consider the chances of a Budapest presence in the quarter-finals to be modest. League form, however, has not suffered. Gyoer were comfortably beaten in Budapest and Fradi now trail shock leaders BVSC and Csepel. *BOB VAUGHAN*

IN ALBANIA . . . national coach Neptun Bajko was in tears after the Euro '96 qualifying game against Bulgaria. His team became the first nation to take a point from the Bulgarians, who had previously chalked up six straight wins.

FK Tirana, under new coach Sulejman Mema, who replaced Sukelqim Muca, began the season with three successive wins and a maximum eight points. The system is now three for an away win, two for a home win. *GEZIM NUSHI*

IN CROATIA . . . national squad players will receive average bonuses of £3,900 per game if they get to the European Championship finals.

Three coaches left their clubs in the first three weeks of the new season, all of their own accord: Ivica Matkovic left FC Osijek and was replaced by Ante Cacic, whose place at Marsonia was taken by Ivo Susak, and Marijan Jantoljak quit Rijeka.

The outstanding player so far has been a Liberian, Mass Sarr, who joined Hajduk Split from FC Ales in France. Sarr scored four goals in his first three games. *ZDRAVCO REIC*

IN GEORGIA . . . Samtredia won their first four games of the championship, but coach Murtaz Khurtsilava was sacked because of the team's poor performance in the UEFA Cup.

A few days later former Georgian internationals Gia Jishkariani and David Tsomaia walked out on the team after a contractual dispute. FA rules do not permit players to play for other clubs in the same season. So the players look set to join the ranks of Georgian legionnaries in Russia.

Without them and Georgian international, 21-year-old Janashia, on his way to Lokomotiv Moscow, Samtredia are unlikely to repeat their success of last season, when they finished runners-up. *Z MEDZVELIA*

IN LATVIA . . . Skonto Riga maintained their monopoly, winning the championship for the fifth year in a row and with six games of the season still remaining. They won 18 and drew two of their first 20 matches, with goal figures of 73-10.

Nine Skonto players were in the national team who recorded a third successive win in the European Championship qualifiers, this time at home to Liechtenstein. *VALERY KARPOUSHKIN*

IN SLOVENIA . . . FC Mura from Murska Subotika set the early pace in the new-look Slovenian League. There are only 10 clubs in the top division, compared with 18 last season and 21 the season before! *ZDRAVCO REIC*

IN SLOVAKIA . . . Sweet and sour was the taste of international football as summer turned to autumn. Slovan duly went out to German opposition, Kaiserslautern, in the UEFA Cup.

Inter, too, could not cope with opposition from a big league, losing 5-0 on aggregate to holders Zaragoza in the Cup-winners Cup.

Slovan, despite selling players, even to fellow Slovak clubs – Chvila and Negro are off to provincial Prievidza – are the only likely League winners, and domestic interest will be limited to the runners-up and possible second UEFA Cup spot, and the Cup. *BOB VAUGHAN*

Eric [no longer] idle

HE'S BACK! After an eight-month suspension, Eric Cantona has made a triumphant return to the Manchester United line-up, starring in the 2-2 draw with Liverpool.

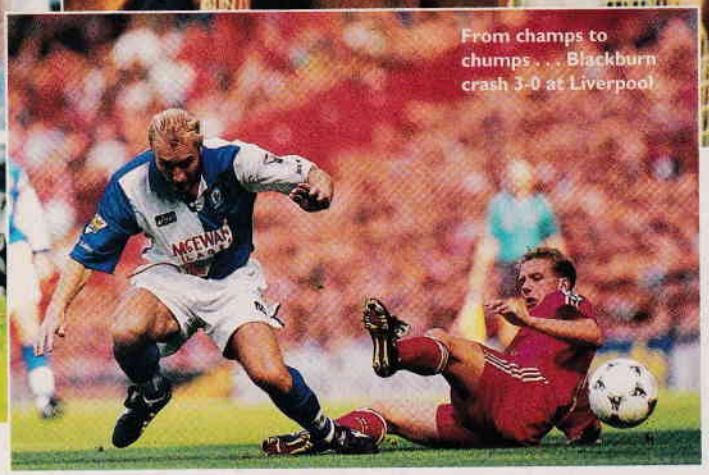
A day after Diego Maradona, that other *bete noire* of world football, made his return in Seoul, Cantona walked out to a hero's welcome at Old Trafford. He walked off to an equally audible reception at full-time, after rescuing a point for United by setting up the first goal, for Nicky Butt, and then scoring the equaliser from the penalty spot.

In truth, United were lucky to gain a point from a match Liverpool deserved to win, and must be mighty relieved to have Cantona back in the fold.

The previous fortnight had been a nightmare for United: first they lost 3-0 at home to Second Division York City in the first round, first leg of the Coca-Cola Cup, and then a 2-2 home draw with Rotor Volgograd meant their exit, on away goals, from the first round of the UEFA Cup, despite goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel's last-minute equaliser with a header from a corner!

Gallic hug . . . Cantona celebrates his goal against Liverpool

Ghanaian goal machine . . . another success for Leeds' Tony Yeboah


From champs to chumps . . . Blackburn crash 3-0 at Liverpool

Cantona, had he been available, might have been able to help break down a well-organised Rotor defence, but the truth is that United were knocked out by a technically superior side who deserved to progress.

Indeed, the latest batch of European matches showed up some worrying aspects for the English clubs.

The champions, Blackburn, have started very poorly in the League, were well beaten in Trondheim, by Rosenborg, and now face a mammoth task to qualify for the Champions Cup quarter-finals. Rovers looked devoid of ideas and continually relied on the predictable and easy-to-deal-with long ball.

Similarly, Everton were far too predictable against Iceland's Reykjavik, and were flattered by a 3-1 scoreline in the second leg. It may be unfair to compare the current team with the last Everton side to play in Europe – the one which won the Cup-winners Cup in 1985 – but the fact remains, that side would have played the Icelanders off the park.

In the UEFA Cup, Liverpool were uncharacteristically defensive in the drawn home leg against Spartak Vladikavkaz, though they had effectively won the tie with a splendid performance in Russia a fortnight earlier. Leeds fall into the same bracket, their 1-0 home defeat by Monaco largely meaningless after the Yeboah-inspired 3-0 win in the first leg.

Nottingham Forest squeezed through, by virtue of an away goal, against Malmo, but could have been dead and buried but for some woeful finishing by the Swedes in the first leg.

The bottom line is that England's five representatives will have to improve significantly in the next round if they are to progress any further.

Rosenborg's manager, Nils Arne Eggen, and Peter Schmeichel both questioned the English contingent's tactics in Europe, which seem badly equipped to deal with the continental game. But things are changing, slowly.

Liverpool led the way, last season, by playing three central defenders with two attacking full-backs, who are more like old-fashioned wing-backs in truth. Chelsea followed suit, signing Ruud Gullit to fulfil the sweeper's role, and now several FA Premiership clubs are experimenting with this option.

Aston Villa have found it particularly effective, with Paul McGrath, Ugo Ehiogu and Gareth Southgate – recently promoted to the England squad – in the middle of a defence which has conceded only five goals in eight games.

Villa are currently in second position with Dwight Yorke, an under-achiever in recent years, suddenly scoring on a regular basis alongside Savo Milosevic, the Serbian striker now finding his form after a difficult start.

Brian Little's side trail leaders Newcastle by four points, but Newcastle's blistering early-season form may be a little misleading. Of their eight games, six have been against teams in the bottom half of the table, with the other two against Chelsea and Middlesbrough. Granted, Newcastle have beaten seven of those sides in impressive fashion, but their real tests will come when Liverpool, Villa, Manchester United and Leeds line up against them.

One man taking no further part in the Geordies' rampage is Ruel Fox. He has joined Tottenham in a £4.4million deal as Gerry Francis seeks to improve his attack.

Another striker moving to London is Mark Hateley. He left one Rangers for another, swapping the Glasgow variety for the West London version in a £1million deal. QPR manager Ray Wilkins wants Hateley, who enjoyed five highly-successful seasons at Ibrox, to add experience and power to his young attack, though knee surgery will keep him out for at least a month.

For Leeds, Tony Yeboah has continued his goal-scoring spree, with 11 so far. The most remarkable feature, though, is the quality rather than the quantity of his goals. He followed his thunderbolt against Liverpool with that hat-trick in Monaco, another wonderful individual goal against Wimbledon and an even better one against Sheffield Wednesday. At this rate, the 'goal of the season' winner will be a foregone conclusion.

JOHN KELLY

Northern Ireland

Oporto upset raises hopes

THE extraordinary sequence of away results in the current European Championship continued for Bryan Hamilton's Northern Ireland side when they upset all the odds and drew 1-1 against high-riding Portugal in Oporto.

A crowd of 57,000 expected to watch their favourites clinch qualification for the final stages of the competition in England next summer. With a previous record of three home victories in three matches, 12 goals for and three against, there seemed no way Portugal could fail. They had won in Belfast as well, and the Irish had lost their previous home game to Latvia.

But a backs-to-the-wall performance, a series of top-drawer saves from Alan Fettis, and a superb 30-yard shot from Michael Hughes, gave the gloss to what Hamilton described as an "organised, disciplined and determined" performance.

If the result was tinged with good fortune, it nevertheless made last June's defeat at Windsor Park by Latvia all the more galling. Northern Ireland might even have been in contention for a final place from a group of topsy-turvey results.

Thankfully, there is hope for the future on the international front after several lean years, with young players such as Keith Gillespie (Newcastle) and the emerging Gerard McMahon (Tottenham) looking capable of adding some style and panache to the traditional hard graft of Irish teams.

Two of the province's European representatives fell at the first hurdle, the Danes of Silkeborg and the Ukrainians of Shakhtyor Donetsk proving technically far superior to League champions Crusaders and Cup-winners Linfield respectively.

Glenavon's 1-0 aggregate preliminary round victory over FH of Iceland was a consolation. Dermot O'Neill saved a penalty in Reykjavik before Scottish midfielder Sammy Johnston scored to win the tie following a draw at Mourneview Park.

The Irish League semi-professionals had absolutely no hope of causing an upset against Werder Bremen, but TV fees have brought Glenavon a couple of hundred thousand pounds – most welcome to a club which has invested heavily in ground improvements and in strengthening the team in recent years.

The first Cup Final of the season matched two of the teams who should be vying for the new-style Premier League title. Portadown edged out Crusaders 2-1 in a dour League Cup Final at Windsor Park, through goals from Garry Haylock and Robert Casey against one from captain Sid Burrows.

ROY KITSON

Scotland

Old Firm blues for Celtic

CELTIC's hopes of following up last season's watershed Scottish Cup success with a rapid fire second trophy were shattered when the Parkhead side succumbed to a flash of joint genius from Paul Gascoigne and Ally McCoist.

The two Rangers players combined superbly to create the goal which gave the Ibrox side victory when the two teams met in the quarter-final of the Coca-Cola Cup.

For McCoist, who headed home Gascoigne's pristine cross late in the game, scoring against Celtic has become a habit over the years, but for Gazza, his contribution proved to be a major step in his bid to win the approval of the Rangers fans, many of whom had expressed grave doubts concerning both his ability and commitment following a far from influential performance as Walter Smith's men went down 1-0 to Steaua Bucharest in their opening UEFA Champions League fixture.

"I think I've paid off about £100,000 off my transfer fee," quipped the Geordie midfielder, who went one better 10 days later when Rangers returned to Parkhead to inflict a 2-0 League defeat on their Old Firm rivals. Gascoigne, who had produced a delightful display in Rangers's 2-2 Champions League draw with Borussia Dortmund, scored his first League goal against Celtic.

Rangers fans are also delighted at the signing of Russia international Oleg Salenko. The former Valencia striker scored on his debut against Falkirk, and showed in the Coca-Cola game with Celtic that nobody should doubt his temperament in respect of the big occasion.

Salenko's partnership with McCoist should compensate for the loss of Mark Hateley, who has taken up a player-coach position at Queens Park Rangers alongside former Ibrox team-mate Ray Wilkins.

Celtic's exit from the Coca-Cola Cup was not helped by some scathing public statements from international midfielder John Collins a few days later. In a television interview, Collins expressed his disappointment at Celtic's apparent reluctance to discuss a new contract.

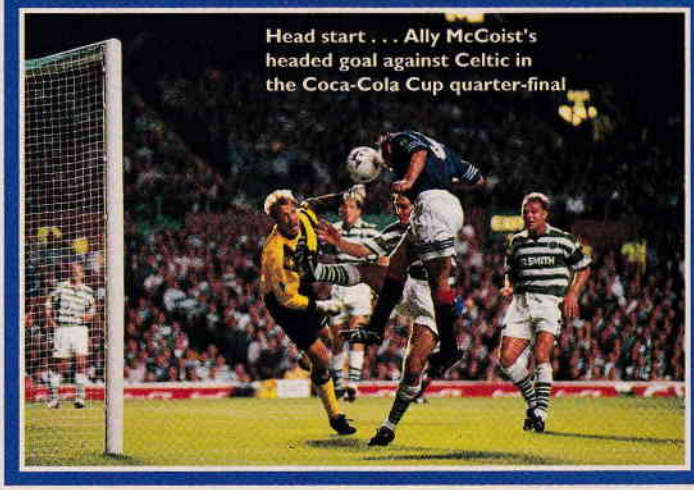
Manager Tommy Burns was quick to refute Collins' comments, stating that inquiries had been made by both Middlesbrough and QPR, but that neither club had been able to match Celtic's price, believed to be in the region of £2million.

While Collins was adamant that he had "gone public" as a means of trying to maintain the good relationship he has always had with the Celtic fans, such well-aired grievances will do nothing for the morale of a club which desperately needs to build on last season's achievement to present a realistic challenge to Rangers' domestic domination.

Over the course of the past few seasons Partick Thistle have worked on little more than survival tactics as they have held on to their Premier Division status. The departure of manager John Lambie, however, has spawned a new philosophy at Firhill, with new boss Murdo MacLeod introducing a more subtle tactical strategy.

An impressive unbeaten run at the start of the season heralded MacLeod's arrival but it will be interesting to see how the former Scotland international copes with the limited resources available to him at Glasgow's 'third team'.

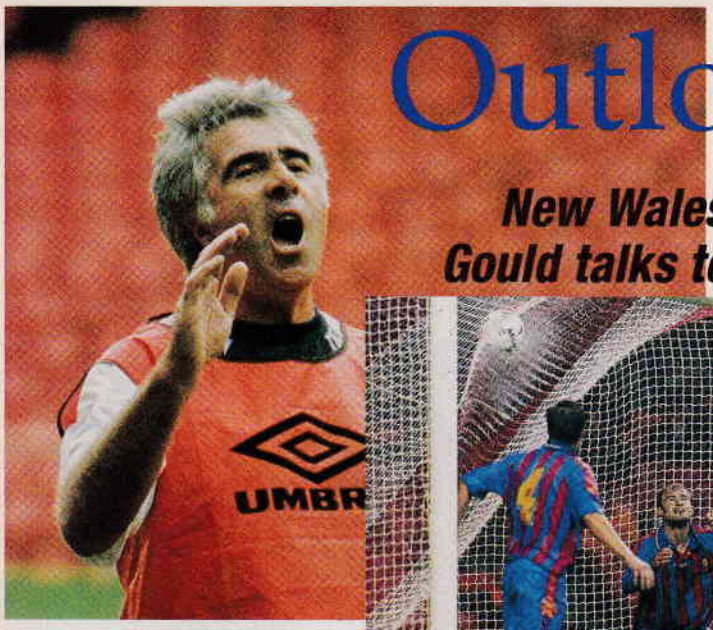
ALAN FAIRLEY



Head start . . . Ally McCoist's headed goal against Celtic in the Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final

Outlook brighter

New Wales manager Bobby Gould talks to WORLD SOCCER



Welsh rarity . . . Speed scores against Moldova

BOBBY GOULD's appointment as manager of the Welsh national team came as a surprise, even a shock, to many people. But those who have had the pleasure of meeting and chatting to him will see why the FAW made him their choice. His enthusiasm is highly infectious – even to the extent of affecting FAW Council members, which will surely earn him the free rein he requires and deserves.

He explained his views on Welsh football, his task and philosophy, to Mel Ap Ior Thomas

WORLD SOCCER: Have you decided on your tactical plan for the national team?

BOBBY GOULD: I have already settled on a system – operating a sweeper behind two defenders, and five in midfield. It worked well, after a slight adjustment at the break, against Moldova, and I'm looking forward to pitching my ideas against Germany.

You've had to make changes against Germany. Any thoughts on the matter?

Chris Coleman is out, but we have a strong squad of players keen to play. Nathan Blake could fill the position, but I will also be taking a look at Andy Melville and Karl Ready. Wales have long been renowned for a top strike force, but now we have the makings of a world-class defence. Kit Symons cost Manchester City £2m, Coleman of Palace has Arsenal, Villa and Tottenham bidding for him, and Manchester United are interested in Adrian Williams of Reading. That's nearly £10m worth of defensive talent.

Wales are out of contention in a place in the European Championships, so is the match with Germany irrelevant?

The match is vital. We need all the remaining points available to push us up the rankings so that we can get into the highest seeding group possible in December when the World Cup qualifiers are drawn. The squad available may well be supplemented by 'new' players with distant Welsh connections. Matt Le Tissier seems out of the reckoning, but until England use him in a competitive match, a FIFA or UEFA tournament, the door will be open. Eligibility is a matter I am studying at present. I have a list of 51 players, whose eligibility has been confirmed, including the current squad, and I'll be talking to those not already in the squad about the chances of playing for Wales. The lure of the next World Cup will play a big part. The players include Andy Impey (QPR), Steve Stone (Forest) and Joe Parkinson (Everton). I'm very pleased with what I have seen at Under-18, Under-21 and Senior level.

Premiership games are suspended before internationals, but a lot of Welsh players are with Endsleigh League clubs and their release has been a problem. Will you be taking action to get their release?

I have no qualms about this. I will have no hesitation in evoking the five-day rule to get my players released for pre-match gatherings. A lot depends on the importance of the match, not only competitively, but to my plans.

Your training methods have been described as innovative . . .

My squad doctrine is based around communication and I use a big of psychology on them. In the hotel I put Ian Rush with Lee Nogan, John Hartson with Mark Hughes, and so on – and told them to talk to each other. I told Ian to tell Lee where he went wrong in the past, and Lee to tell Rushie what he admires about him. Sharing their experiences and experiences, on-field partnerships then get better, instilling a high team spirit throughout the entire squad.

Ryan Giggs has been a controversial character. Will you be taking action to ensure his release?

His injury has been troublesome, and needed time to heal. I've experienced it, and know how bad it can be. A lot of the problem in the past has been due to poor communication on the subject. He is now back in United's side and playing well. Hopefully he will stay fit to play for club and country. Not that I am planning to build the side around Ryan. But Alex Ferguson has guaranteed to me that, if fit, Giggs will always be released to play. I consider the matter dealt with.

You have said how imperative it is to have friendly matches early next year. Any in mind?

I'll be using my contacts in Switzerland and Norway to get us top-quality opponents. Both countries should qualify for the Euro finals, and will be looking for the tough examination we can give them. Terry Venables would not accept the challenge. Police concerns about England playing in Cardiff must be considered, but the answer is simple – we'll take them on at Wembley. The last time we played them was in 1984, when Mark Hughes scored the winner, and we have nothing to fear by playing them anywhere. I've thrown down the gauntlet – it's up to Terry to take it up!

What about the levels below the senior side?

Setting up an infrastructure within Wales, to bring talent through, is an important part of my plan. The League of Wales will play an important role in this respect. I call it FLOW – Football League of Wales – and I would like to see that I get a flow of players from the League of Wales. I have been noted in the past for finding little nuggets, and little nuggets have to start somewhere. Every League needs time to grow, and the League of Wales is no exception.

Is European qualification important to the League of Wales?

John Emmanuel, manager of Ton Pentre, is an old friend of mine, having been with Bristol City when I was at Bristol Rovers. I phoned him after his side played in the Intertoto Cup, and he was delighted about being in it. Those players will not only learn from their experience, but will cherish the memories of European competition. However, it is very important that Welsh clubs win games to retain the second UEFA place. I haven't yet had a chance to see any League of Wales games, but I was at Afan Lido when they played RAF Riga. It was amazing to see 2,000 plus at a rugby ground watching football!

Wales

Speed goal gives Gould a lift

BOBBY GOULD'S first match in charge of the national side ended in success. A 1-0 win over a skilful Moldovan side took Wales off the bottom of the qualifying group.

A goal by Gary Speed, from a set-piece, gave them their first victory in 12 months. They now have two qualifiers to improve their ranking and obtain a better seeding in the World Cup draw.

The National League got off to a good start with attendances up by 11 per cent on last season. Champions Bangor City have struggled to find their form and early leaders are Ebbw Vale AFC and Conwy United. Vale, hammered 4-0 at Conwy, are two points ahead but have played two matches more.

Pre-season favourites Barry Town, who turned professional in the summer, have parted company with manager Eddie May, formerly with Cardiff City.

May, who joined the club at the end of last season, blamed boardroom interference. "If I can't pick the team then there's no point in staying," he said.

Barry have had four managers in 15 months: Andy Beattie, Terry Boyle, John Lewis and May. The move to professionalism attracted class players, with Cohen Griffith, Chris Pike and Paul Ramsey all signing for May in preference to English League clubs.

MEL AP IOR THOMAS

HOLSTEN

THISTLE
HOTELS

Who's number one? you decide

WORLD SOCCER AWARDS 95

ONCE again it's that time of the year when *WORLD SOCCER* readers have the chance to select the World Player of the Year in our annual poll.

Last year Milan and Italy's outstanding defender Paolo Maldini joined a prestigious list of past winners that includes Zico, Michel Platini, Diego Maradona, Ruud Gullit, Marco Van Basten and Roberto Baggio. Milan were your Team of the Year, ahead of World Cup winners Brazil, while Brazil's coach Carlos Alberto Parreira was Manager of the Year.

This year's awards promise to be more open than ever before. And as ever you, the reader, decides.

It could be Jurgen Klinsmann for the impact he made on English football in just one season with Tottenham. Juventus's Gianluca Vialli and Real Madrid's Michael Laudrup inspired title successes in Italy and Spain respectively, while Brazil's new midfield schemer Juninho was an impressive new arrival on the international scene. Gianfranco Zola was again outstanding for Parma, while Tony Yeboah has had a dramatic effect on Leeds' fortunes since his move from Eintracht Frankfurt.

Of the teams vying for your votes, Ajax Amsterdam, worthy winners of the Champions Cup, are bound to attract support. The Parma success story continued with victory over Juventus in the UEFA Cup Final, while Nantes were runaway champions in France. On the international scene, don't forget Uruguay's win in the 1995 Copa America.

On the managerial front, Louis Van Gaal of Ajax and Parma's Nevio Scala are the frontrunners. But, as with the player and team awards, there are many others to choose from.

Any player, any team, any coach. The decision is yours.

To register your vote, fill in this coupon and send it (or a photocopy) to 1995 ***WORLD SOCCER*** Awards, ***WORLD SOCCER*** magazine, King's Reach Tower, Stamford St, London SE1 9LS. Please include your name and address and ensure your vote reaches us by the closing date, December 1 1995.

PLAYER .....

TEAM .....

MANAGER .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

NOV

Kick of the scorpion

Nick Harling on the save that put Colombian 'keeper Rene Higuita in the spotlight

FOR ALL the sweet elegance and delightful touches displayed by Carlos Valderrama on Colombia's visit to Wembley, the night will be remembered as the night of the scorpion, or more precisely Rene Higuita's scorpion kick.

The goalkeeper's outrageous save from Jamie Redknapp provided the main talking point not just the next day but well into the following week. In years to come, football fans will continue to recall the 23rd minute of that friendly international with a mixture of awe and amusement.

Higuita launched himself forward to dive under Redknapp's shot and struck it away with a beautifully timed backwards flip of both legs. Any Olympic diver would have been proud. But should we really be surprised by anything that Higuita achieves on or off the pitch? By his appearance alone, he is not exactly normal. The long curly hair and thick, bandito-style moustache are common enough in bohemian circles. But among the goalkeeping fraternity? Hardly, even in this day and age.

Goalkeepers are crazy, so they say, and most certainly the likes of Bruce Grobbelaar, the Mexican Jorge Campos and Higuita have done their utmost to preserve the image with the various streaks of eccentricity that come associated with the trade.

Grobbelaar may now face imprisonment if the match-fixing charges against him are proved, but Higuita has already ended a spell inside for his alleged involvement in the kidnapping of a girl by a drugs gang (see Q & A, below).

Although his release had been secured by June 1994, the further punishment for Higuita was the loss of his place for the World Cup finals in the USA. With their bandy-legged maverick between the uprights, Colombia might not have suffered the embarrassment of a first-round exit.

He has returned to the national team, none the worse for his incarceration if his prevailing sense of adventure in the recent Copa America was anything to go by. So sound is his judgment, so skilful his touch that Colombia's entire back four were happy to indulge his excursions from goal, exchanging passes with him whenever the need arose.

If not quite subsequently at his best for his club, Atletico Nacional, in the Libertadores Cup Final against Gremio, Higuita's clean sheet at Wembley was testimony to a mere temporary decline.

When FIFA decreed two years ago that keepers should not handle back passes played by feet, they could have done no more to please the likes of Higuita, who loves showing off the skills which once served him so well as a forward in his native Medellin.

True, Higuita punched a corner from Tulio into his own net in Colombia's 3-0 defeat against Brazil in the Copa but with a characteristic save from Paraguay's Carlos Gammarra in a penalty shoot-out he helped Colombia into the semi-finals. Uruguay's 2-0 win meant that Colombia had to participate in the third-place play-off against the US, and Higuita revealed his true self. While his team-mates dithered as to who should take a free-kick on the edge of the American penalty area, Higuita rushed down the pitch to smash a shot against the bar, leaving Faustino Asprilla an easy goal from the rebound.

Only a brash manager gambles with a goalkeeper as extrovert as Higuita, so Ron Atkinson's interest was perhaps to be expected. Nothing seems to have come of Coventry's admiration, and Higuita, at 29, may not realise his ambition of returning to a European club after a brief spell in Spain with Real Valladolid.

Two men would be certain to recommend him: Francisco Maturana, the former Colombia coach, and Hernan Dario Gomez, his successor.

Maturana, whose team went out of the 1990 World Cup in Italy after Higuita had lost the ball in the centre circle to Cameroon's Roger Milla, insisted even then: "Higuita is without a doubt the saviour of Colombia and not the crazy goalkeeper that some believe him to be. He brings the ball out with competence and great security."

"When I have finished my career, my name will stay on people's lips and in their minds as a player who brought a bit of magic into the lives of ordinary people," Higuita said recently.

So it is not surprising that the people of Medellin want to erect a monument to him!

Q & A: Rene Higuita

Were you a friend of Pablo Escobar, the now dead Colombian drug baron?

"I won't deny that I knew him, but from that to my being involved in drug dealings is a long way. Many people knew him. I was just one of them."

Why were you jailed?

"I helped to negotiate the release of a little girl who had been kidnapped, and was paid for it. That was against Colombian law at the time. But the 50,000 dollars appeared in my bank account without my knowing, and if I had to go to jail to save a little girl's life, it was well worth it. A lot of priests and politicians have committed the same 'crime'."

You have been taking penalties for a long time and scored from 34, but when did you start taking free-kicks as well?

"Since leaving jail. Before, I didn't have the courage to risk leaving goal to take free-kicks, but in jail we used to play pick-up games and once I got the idea of taking free-kicks I started scoring goals. And I spent a lot of time practising as I had to spend my time in jail somehow. Now I am very confident and whenever there is a free-kick near goal I look at the bench to see if the coach will authorise me to go up and take it."

People wonder why you wear your hair so long and if it doesn't get in your eyes.

"I never wear it short. It's a symbol for me . . . a symbol of liberty."

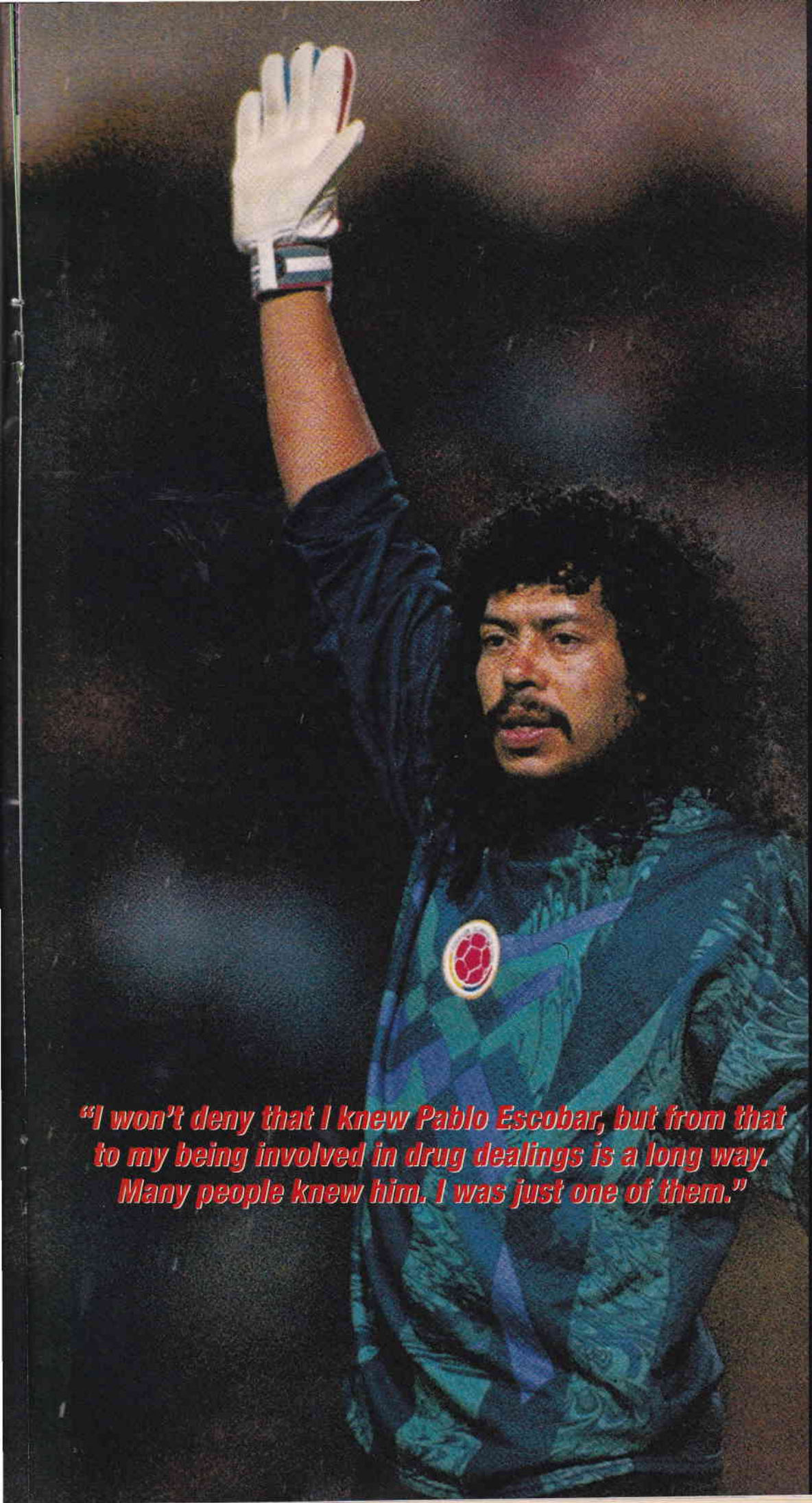
[The second part of the question answered itself as Higuita frequently pushed his locks away from his forehead as we talked.]

Which goalkeepers do you like?

"The Argentinians always had the best. Ubaldo Fillol was a great one. At present I like Jose Luis Chilavert [the Paraguayan playing for Velez Sarsfield]. He must be one of the best in the world."

Chilavert, like Higuita, scores penalties and from free-kicks.

ERIC WEIL



"I won't deny that I knew Pablo Escobar, but from that to my being involved in drug dealings is a long way. Many people knew him. I was just one of them."

MEN IN THE NEWS

DIEGO MARADONA . . . certainly had strange ways of preparing himself for his long-awaited comeback to soccer *(see report, page 4)*.

After his 15-months drug ban imposed by FIFA, he trained only a couple of times with the rest of the squad at his latest club, Boca Juniors, although he is reported to be on £5,100,000 for a 30-month contract. That includes signing-on fee, special payments for friendly matches, and a £53,000 monthly salary, but not win bonuses.

Most of this contract is financed by an Argentinian TV mogul, who hopes to get his money back with TV rights and friendlies.

Diego preferred to train with his own coaches, significantly again including Daniel Cerrini, the man who gave Maradona the concoction containing forbidden drugs which got him banned during the World Cup.

A month before his return, Maradona decided to continue his preparation in Punta del Este, a fashionable Uruguayan seaside resort, "to get away from the pressure".

Two weeks before his debut for Boca Juniors in a friendly in South Korea, Maradona went to Paris to meet other leading players and form a world union. The principal objective could be to stand up to FIFA on matters such as match schedules and sharing TV rights at World Cups. "If there is no agreement, there will be problems at the next World Cup in France," he said. From Paris, Maradona went to Madrid, to act as a commentator for the Spain-Argentina friendly, and then on to South Korea.

In between he found time to lambast Argentina's national team and then try to make up his feud with their coach, Daniel Passarella, after he heard that the International Olympic Committee was trying to get leading players from all over the world to take part in next year's Olympic Games.

Earlier, Maradona said he was going to continue training in Cuba, then changed his mind, but added that he would like to live in Cuba once he finishes his playing career.

Perhaps by now he will have started talking with his feet.

DANIEL PASSARELLA . . . has clashed with Fernando Redondo. The international midfielder, now playing for Real Madrid, said he was being left out of the team because he refused to cut his hair short. National team boss Passarella strongly denied this and said it was because Redondo refused to play in any other position but No. 5.

DUSAN DRASKOVIC . . . the Montenegrin coach who was in charge of Ecuador's national teams for five years up to last year, has been given a two-year contract to coach the Bolivian national team. He replaces Spaniard Antonio Lopez, dismissed after the Copa America in July.

HECTOR NUNEZ . . . the Uruguayan national coach, has had his contract extended until after the next World Cup, following the Copa America victory. Nunez wanted Enzo Francescoli as his assistant coach, but the player said he would not consider it until his playing career was over.

ERIC WEIL

Argentina

Jujuy cause a surprise

FIVE clubs were topping the National A Division's opening championship at press time: San Lorenzo, Velez Sarsfield, Racing Club and River Plate plus a little provincial club, Gimnasia y Esgrima de Jujuy, who even had a game in hand.

Only two clubs were undefeated after seven of the 19 rounds: River Plate and Boca Juniors.

River Plate, whose play-maker Enzo Francescoli was recently named top player of the 1994-95 season by soccer journalists, also signed Mexican international Alberto Garcia Aspe.

He has yet to make a full appearance, but his presence caused discontent among some players because he will be getting more money than any of them – £100,000 for four months.

On paper River Plate again have the strongest playing staff and most current internationals.

Boca Juniors, with two wins and four draws, were three points from the top with the match against Jujuy in hand, but their performances were poor despite their wealth of players.

Fans shout for Maradona at every game. The players' morale is low, and perhaps Maradona's return when his drug ban is completed is just what they need to instil some enthusiasm and perhaps renew the formerly successful link with Caniggia, who seems lost at the moment and gets few good passes.

But perhaps too much is expected of an ageing Maradona and fans also call for the dismissal of coach Silvio Marzolini, a former international defender with the club.

Marzolini was given a virtual ultimatum that he must go if he lost the next match. Independiente coach Miguel Angel Lopez was given a similar ultimatum at virtually the same time.

The next match was Boca Juniors against Independiente, and it was billed as the battle of coaches . . . but it was no contest. Passes went astray and the goalkeepers were unemployed.

The 0-0 score left both coaches unbeaten, but the inept displays still may not have saved them.

Independiente's position is more serious. They have yet to win, after seven games, despite acquiring 13 new players of this season – the latest being Uruguayan international midfielder Diego Dorta.

This followed a clearout of almost a whole team (including international keeper Luis Isles) when an internal rift resulted in a change of the pro soccer department's management.

San Lorenzo signed Bertrand Tchami, 18, younger brother of Boca Juniors' Alphonse, from Cameroon's Unisport while FC Oeste now also have two Africans on their books – South African Doctor Khumalo and Zimbabwe's Memory Mucherahowa.

But the soccer being served up is poor, rough and undisciplined, and there are few goals – under two per game on average.

The Argentina FA has asked FIFA to return to two points for a win, because three has made no difference, and 14 players were sent off in the 10 games on one weekend.

Meanwhile, of the 18 players who won the Under-20 world title for Argentina earlier this year, two have gone abroad – Juan Sorin to Juventus *(see page 22)* and Leonardo Biaggini to Atletico Madrid – but 13 others are in reserve teams and Irigoytie, chosen as the best goalkeeper in that tournament, is a reserve in River Plate's reserves.

To cap it all, Jose Packerman, the junior coach, did not get his contract renewed by the FA because of a row over his salary.

ERIC WEIL

Plate class . . . Mexican Alberto Garcia Aspe has joined River Plate

Brazil

Flamengo call on Rodrigues

THE wacky world of Brazilian domestic football produced yet another bizarre episode when veteran radio commentator Washington Rodrigues, a man with no playing or coaching experience, was appointed manager of Flamengo.

The move appeared to be a desperate last gamble by president Kleber Leite to rescue his multi-million dollar team, which includes Romario and Edmundo, from disaster.

Despite a huge investment – £3.3 million on Edmundo, a £4.6m deal to bring Romario back from Barcelona – Flamengo lost out to Fluminense in the Rio de Janeiro championship and then made a wretched start to the Brazilian national championship.

A win and a draw in the opening games were followed by three successive defeats, which meant Flamengo had no chance of winning their group in the first stage of the competition, which in turn would mean a semi-final place.

The so-called 'dream attack' scored only four goals in five games and manager Edinho, the 1982 and 1986 World Cup defender, was sacked.

Leite was snubbed by big names such as Sao Paulo's Tele Santana and Palmeiras' Carlos Alberto Silva as he searched for a replacement. So he went for the publicity stunt instead.

Rodrigues, whose large beer belly testifies to his non-athletic past, was appointed and his new career began in spectacular style with a 3-2 win away to Argentinian League leaders Velez Sarsfield in the South American Supercup. Four days later they won again, this time away to Juventude in the Brazilian championships.

That prompted the abrasive Leite to claim that the profession of a football manager was obsolete, a comment naturally repudiated by some of the other managers. "Being a manager is more than just putting the team on the pitch. He's going to face various problems and then we'll see what he's made of," said Eduardo Amorim of Corinthians.

One of the problems could be Leite himself. He is under enormous pressure to win something this year both from the fans, in the club's centenary year, and the companies who sponsored Romario's signing.

Another problem will be getting Romario back on the rails. The criticism levelled at him because of Flamengo's lack of success, coupled with the break-up of his marriage, have taken their toll. He caused a fright by briefly passing out during Rodrigues' first training session in charge. He was released no worse the wear after a night in hospital and stress was immediately put forward as the cause of his trouble.

The fact that he got immediate treatment in a public hospital, however, caused an outcry in a country where the dilapidated public health service turns away patients by the hundred due to lack of money, staff and equipment.

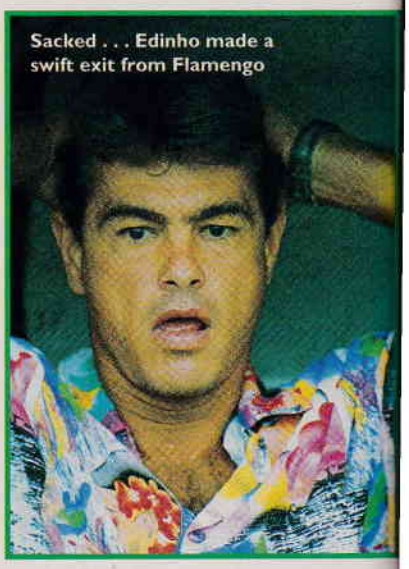
Under the curious rules of the championship, Flamengo could still reach the semi-finals by winning their group in the second stage. The four semi-finalists will be the two teams who win groups A and B in the first age (in which the teams play in their own groups) and the two winners in the second stage (when they start again from scratch and play the teams in the other group).

With four games left to go, Palmeiras, Cruzeiro and Botafogo were the leading contenders to win group A in the first stage, while Fluminense and Internacional were favourites in group B.

Botafogo's Tulio was leading scorer with eight goals in seven games.

Attendances during the early stages of the competition were pretty dismal, averaging around 8,000. Many fans may have been put off by the death of a young fan following fighting after the final of a junior tournament featuring the youth teams of Sao Paulo and Palmeiras at the Pacaembu stadium.

BRIAN HOMEWOOD



Sacked . . . Edinho made a swift exit from Flamengo

Copa Libertadores

Gremio, weakest of the strongest

MOST MONEY – especially in Brazil – was on Palmeiras to win this year's Libertadores Cup. However, it was the other Brazilian team, little-fancied Gremio of Porto Alegre, who took the trophy for the second time.

Gremio had qualified via the Brazil Cup, a knock-out tournament which brings together the top two teams of each state. It is a well-known fact that Brazilian soccer is of a much lower quality outside Rio and Sao Paulo. With the heavy fixture congestion in Brazil, the teams from these two states often do not field their strongest teams in cup matches.

This year Gremio again reached the final (losing to Sao Paulo's Corinthians), but in Rio Grande do Sol's Gaucho League, Gremio and the town's other big club, Internacional, are by far the strongest, so that they are virtually guaranteed to qualify for the Brazil Cup every year.

The general feeling is that this Gremio team is the weakest of eight Brazilian teams (from five clubs) to have won the Libertadores Cup, and that their victory shows what discipline, hard work and a little luck can do for a mediocre outfit with virtually no stars.

Goalkeeper Danrlai does not look too safe. The defence and midfield are hard but uninspired workers, and their chief weapon is aerial counter-attack.

Striker Jardel, the tournament's leading scorer with 13 goals, is tall and good with his head, but not so good on the ground. The irony is that Jardel is on loan from Rio's Vasco da Gama and the other striker, Paulo Nunes, is a cast-off from Rio's Flamengo.

Gremio, founded in 1903, have rarely featured on the international scene. They have played in the Libertadores Cup five times, winning in 1983 as well as this year, and reaching the 1984 Final.

This time they were given little chance when they came up against Palmeiras in the quarter-finals, but Palmeiras had two men sent off halfway through the first half and lost 5-0.

This was the surprise result of the tournament, borne out by the fact that Palmeiras almost wiped out the deficit in their home leg, which they won 5-1.

Other noteworthy incidents came in the semi-final, when Colombian goalkeeper Rene Higuita got Nacional of Medellin into the final.

He scored the only goal from a free-kick in their 1-0 first leg win against Argentina's River Plate. And then, in the second leg, after River Plate had won 1-0 to force a penalty shoot-out, he was the first to save a shot – the 15th – after earlier scoring with one.

Gremio often play it rough, because they do not possess the skill of other Brazilian teams, but the final legs were relatively clean. Gremio were well on top in the home leg, especially after Nacional's Marulanda put through his own goal after 36 minutes.

Jardel netted his 13th goal of the tournament seven minutes later, and Paulo Nunez made it three in the 56th minute. Nacional's defence had marked well before the goals came and again afterwards but it was too late.

Juan Angel pulled one goal back after 72 minutes to give Nacional renewed hope for the second leg, and when they scored through Aristizabal after 11 minutes, anything seemed possible. But they failed to make any further impression on the Brazilian defence in a poor game.

They were losing heat when Dinho put the result beyond doubt with a penalty equaliser five minutes from the end. A minute later Gremio were left with 10 men – Goiano sent off – but this made no difference.

A few days later, Nacional coach Jan Jose Pelasz and Marulanda reported that they received death threats back in Medellin – presumably from people who had bet and lost money on the Colombian team.

In Buenos Aires, veteran Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata coach Carlos Griguol, not involved in this year's tournament, called for stricter drug-testing in the continental tournament. He claims current methods were neither strict nor uniform enough.

ERIC WEIL

Trophy triumph . . . Gremio striker Jardel with the Copa Libertadores

IN BRIEF

IN PERU . . . new manager Julio Cesar Uribe found it beyond even his powers to arrest Alianza Lima's slide from the top of the table.

Uribe's appointment came after Alianza's disastrous run under the command of the Chilean Ramon Estay. He had managed to squander a nine-point lead at the mid-season break, losing four of his last five games as manager.

Defending champions Sporting Cristal are the new one-point leaders with four games to go.

PETER HUDSON

IN CHILE . . . the title fight is again reduced to the three big Santiago clubs: Colo Colo, Universidad de Chile and Universidad Catolica.

International striker Ivo Besay returned from Mexico to play for Colo Colo, and in his first match they beat Atacama by a record 10-0. Colo Colo later beat Universidad Catolica 1-0 in a vital match in front of 60,000 fans.

Universidad de Chile, the defending champions, signed Argentina's international midfielder, Leonel Rodriguez, on a one-year loan for £150,000.

Their striker, Marcelo Salas ***(pictured above left)*** is League top scorer with 14 goals.

Universidad Catolica won the season's first trophy, the Copa Chile, beating Cobreloa 4-2 in the final.

Elias Figueros, one of Chile's former great players, was fired as coach of Palestino, who have been doing badly.

IN COLOMBIA . . . NACIONAL of Medellin, who reached this year's Libertadores Cup Final and frequently fielded reserve teams in domestic competition, still share the lead with Junior and America in Group B of the First Division's opening tournament. Millonarios and Deportivo Cali were joint top in the other group.

The new season, which now lasts from September to May, started with 31 foreign players – 15 of them Argentinians and the rest also South Americans except for Nigerian Festur Agu, 20, a member of his country's junior team. Agu, reported to do the 100 metres in 11 seconds, was signed by Independiente Medellin and is the first African player in Colombia.

FA president Juan Bellini was being investigated by the courts about possible links with drug traffickers, in view of his connection with the America club, which has dealers among the shareholders.

IN PARAGUAY . . . Olimpia won the first round of the First Division, three points ahead of Cerro Porteno, with the rest way behind. They face the winner of the second round – unless they also win that – for the title.

ERIC WEIL

Champions Challenge

These are the player point scores after two rounds of the UEFA Champions League. The closing date has now passed. We will publish a full list of entrants in the December issue of WORLD SOCCER. In the meantime, study the form!

HOW YOU WIN POINTS

2pts for each forward scoring
4pts for each midfielder scoring
6pts for each defender scoring
2pts for each defender and goalkeeper keeping a clean sheet.

HOW YOU LOSE POINTS

1pt lost for every goal conceded by your defender and goalkeeper
3pts lost for each player scoring an own goal

A printing error in last month's edition meant there was some confusion over team selection. Entries with both 4-3-3 and 4-4-2 have been accepted.

You will be able to make transfers at the end of the group stage and before the quarter-finals. You will able to make a maximum of eight transfers. However you will have to stick to your original format.

Participants with Kiev Dynamo players in their original team will be able to make additional transfers to compensate for the early exit of Kiev from the competition – but only after the group stage has finished.

We will publish a full list of the teams and numbers in the December issue of **WORLD SOCCER**. We will also publish details of how you can make transfers and also phone in to find out how your team is doing.

ABBREVIATIONS USED

AJAX – AJAX AMSTERDAM; BLAC – BLACKBURN ROVERS; BORU – BORUSSIA DORTMUND; FERC – FERENCVAROS; GRAS – GRASSHOPPER; JUVE – JUVENTUS; KIEV – KIEV DYNAMO; LEGI – LEGIA WARSAW; NANT – NANTES; PANA – PANATHINAIKOS; PORT – FC PORTO; RANG – RANGERS; REAL – REAL MADRID; ROSE – ROSENBORG; SPAR – MOSCOW SPARTAK; STEA – STEAUA BUCHAREST

Code	Player	Team	Pts
200	Edwin Van Der Sar	AJAX	1
202	Fred Grim	AJAX	0
203	Tim Flowers	BLAC	-3
204	Bobby Mimms	BLAC	0
205	Matt Dickins	BLAC	0
206	Stefan Klos	BORU	-5
207	Wolfgang De Beer	BORU	0
208	Attila Hajdu	FERC	-3
209	Jozsef Szeiler	FERC	0
220	Roberto Bockli	GRAS	0
222	Pascal Zuberbuhler	GRAS	-5
223	Angelo Peruzzi	JUVE	1
224	Michaelangelo Rampulla	JUVE	0
225	Alexander Shovkovski	KIEV	0
226	Andrei Kovtun	KIEV	0
227	Grzegorz Szamotulski	LEGI	0
228	Tomasz Borkowski	LEGI	0
229	Dominique Casagrande	NANT	0
230	David Marraud	NANT	2
232	Jozef Wandzik	PANA	-1
233	Antonios Nikopolidis	PANA	0
234	Vitor Baia	PORT	4
235	Vitor Novoa	PORT	0
236	Silvino	PORT	0
237	Andy Goram	RANG	-3
238	Billy Thomson	RANG	0
239	Francisco Buyo	REAL	1
240	Jose Canizares	REAL	0
242	Ola By Rise	ROSE	-1
243	Jorn Jamtfall	ROSE	-3
244	Stanislav Cherchesov	SPAR	1
245	Dmitri Tyapushkin	SPAR	0
246	Bogdan Stelea	STEA	-1
247	Dumitru Stingaciu	STEA	0
300	Danny Blind	AJAX	-1
302	Frank F De Boer	AJAX	7
303	Michael Reiziger	AJAX	1
304	Sonny Silooy	AJAX	0
305	Winston Bogarde	AJAX	1
306	Marcio Santos	AJAX	0
307	Jeff Kenna	BLAC	-2
308	Henning Berg	BLAC	-3
309	Colin Hendry	BLAC	-3
320	Graeme Le Saux	BLAC	-1
322	Ian Pearce	BLAC	-3
323	Paul Warhurst	BLAC	-2
324	Nicky Marker	BLAC	0
325	Julio Cesar	BORU	-5
326	Martin Kree	BORU	4
327	Marco Kurz	BORU	0
328	Gunter Kutowski	BORU	0
329	Jurgen Kohler	BORU	-5
330	Matthias Sammer	BORU	-5
332	Bodo Schmidt	BORU	-2
333	Janos Hrutka	FERC	0
334	Jozsef Keller	FERC	-5
335	Tibor Simon	FERC	-3
336	Andras Telek	FERC	-3
337	Szergej Kuznyecov	FERC	-5
338	Akos Koller	FERC	0
339	Harald Gamperle	GRAS	0
340	Mats Gren	GRAS	-3
342	Pascal Thuler	GRAS	-5
343	Ramon Vega	GRAS	-5
344	Alain Geiger	GRAS	-5
345	Massimo Carrera	JUVE	0
346	Ciro Ferrara	JUVE	1
347	Pierto Vierchowod	JUVE	2
348	Luca Fusi	JUVE	0
349	Sergio Porrini	JUVE	-1
350	Moreno Torricelli	JUVE	1
352	Gianluca Pessotto	JUVE	1
353	Alessio Tacchinardi	JUVE	2
354	Alessandro Orlando	JUVE	0
355	Juan Pablo Sorin	JUVE	0
356	Oleg Luzhny	KIEV	0
357	Sergei Shmatovalenko	KIEV	0
358	Sergei Bezhenar	KIEV	0
359	Vladislav Vashchuk	KIEV	0
360	Andrei Khomin	KIEV	0
362	Alexander Golovko	KIEV	0
363	Yuri Dmitrulin	KIEV	0
364	Sergei Balanchuk	KIEV	0
365	Zbigniew Mandziejewicz	LEGI	-3
366	Piotr Mosor	LEGI	0
367	Marek Jozwiak	LEGI	3
368	Jacek Zielinski	LEGI	-3
369	Krzysztof Ratajczyk	LEGI	-3
370	Eddy Capron	NANT	0
372	Jean-Marc Chanelet	NANT	0
373	Eric Decroix	NANT	2
374	Laurent Guyot	NANT	2
375	Serge Le Dizet	NANT	2
376	Efstratios Apostolakis	PANA	0
377	Georgios S Georgiadis	PANA	-1
378	Ioannis Kalitzakis	PANA	-1
379	Georgios Kapouranis	PANA	-1
380	Athanasios Kolitsidakis	PANA	-1
382	Leonidas Christodoulou	PANA	0
383	(Domingos) Joao Pinto	PORT	4
384	Aloisio	PORT	2
385	Jorge Costa	PORT	0
386	Ze Carlos	PORT	0
387	Rui Jorge Rui	PORT	0
388	Fernando Bandeirinha	PORT	0
389	Paulinho Santos	PORT	4
390	Paulo Lino	PORT	0
392	Joao (Manuel) Pinto	PORT	0
393	Stephen Wright	RANG	-3
394	David Robertson	RANG	0
395	Gordan Petric	RANG	-3
396	Richard Gough	RANG	3
397	Gary Bollan	RANG	0
398	Brian Reid	RANG	0
399	Alan McLaren	RANG	-1
400	Miguel Soler	REAL	2
402	Chendo	REAL	-1
403	Nando	REAL	0
404	Manuel Sanchis	REAL	1
405	Mikel Lasa	REAL	1
406	Rafael Alkorta	REAL	0
407	Quique Flores	REAL	0
408	Jose Garcia Calvo	REAL	0
409	Bjorn Otto Bragstad	ROSE	-4
420	Jon Olav Hjelde	ROSE	0
422	Erik Hoftun	ROSE	-4
423	Bjorn Tore Kvarme	ROSE	-4
424	Arne Winsnes	ROSE	0
425	Espen Solheim	ROSE	0
426	Stale Stensaas	ROSE	2
427	Jan Halvor Halvorsen	ROSE	0
428	Andrei Afanasiev	SPAR	0
429	Viktor Onopko	SPAR	1
430	Ilia Tsimbalar	SPAR	1
432	Dmitri Khlestov	SPAR	1
433	Yuri Nikiforov	SPAR	7
434	Dmitri Ananko	SPAR	0
435	Alexander Lipko	SPAR	0
436	Ramiz Mamedov	SPAR	1
437	Egor Titov	SPAR	0
438	Andrei Ivanov	SPAR	0
439	Daniel Prodan	STEA	5
440	Tiberiu Csik	STEA	-1
442	Anton Dobos	STEA	-1
443	Aurel PANAit	STEA	0
444	Bogdan Bucur	STEA	0
445	Ionel Pirvu	STEA	-3
500	Edgar Davids	AJAX	0
502	Jari Litmanen	AJAX	12
503	Martijn Reuser	AJAX	0
504	Arnold Scholten	AJAX	0
505	Kizito 'Kiki' Musampa	AJAX	0
506	Ronald R De Boer	AJAX	0
507	Mark Atkins	BLAC	0
508	David Batty	BLAC	0
509	Matthew Holmes	BLAC	0
520	Tim Sherwood	BLAC	0
522	Jason Wilcox	BLAC	0
523	Patrik Berger	BORU	0
524	Thomas Franck	BORU	0
525	Steffen Freund	BORU	0
526	Andreas Moller	BORU	4
527	Knut Reinhardt	BORU	0
528	Stefan Reuter	BORU	0
529	Michael Zorc	BORU	0
530	Florian Albert	FERC	0
532	Zoltan Kecskes	FERC	0
533	Krisztian Lisztes	FERC	4
534	Zoran Kuntics	FERC	0
535	Zsolt Paling	FERC	0
536	Otto Vincze	FERC	8
537	Dejan Milovanovics	FERC	0
538	Gabor Vincze	FERC	0
539	Marcei Koller	GRAS	0
540	Massimo Lombardo	GRAS	0
542	Tomasz Rzasa	GRAS	0
543	Gurkan Sermeter	GRAS	0
544	Johann Vogel	GRAS	0
545	Murat Yakin	GRAS	0
546	Antonio Conte	JUVE	4
547	Vladimir Jugovic	JUVE	0
548	Didier Deschamps	JUVE	0
549	Angelo Di Livio	JUVE	4
550	Attilio Lombardo	JUVE	0
552	Giancarlo Marocchi	JUVE	0
553	Paulo Sousa	JUVE	0
554	Yuri Kalitvintsev	KIEV	0
555	Pavel Shkapenko	KIEV	0
556	Dmitri Mikhailenko	KIEV	0
557	Sergei Mizin	KIEV	0
558	Andrei Shevchenko	KIEV	0
559	Vitali Kosovski	KIEV	0
560	Yuri Maksimov	KIEV	0
562	Yevgeni Pokhlebaev	KIEV	0
563	Leszek Pisz	LEGI	8
564	Adam Fedoruk	LEGI	0
565	Jacek Kacprzak	LEGI	0
566	Gregorz Lewandowski	LEGI	0
567	Radoslaw Michalski	LEGI	0
568	Jacek Bednarz	LEGI	0
569	Marcin Jalocha	LEGI	0
570	Tomasz Wieszczycki	LEGI	0
572	Ryszard Staniek	LEGI	4
573	Bemoit Cauet	NANT	0
574	Jean-Michel Ferri	NANT	0
575	Claude Makelele	NANT	0
576	Bruno Carotti	NANT	0
577	Jocelyn Gourvennec	NANT	0
578	David Garcion	NANT	0
579	Georgios Alexopoulos	PANA	0
580	Alexandros Alexoudis	PANA	0
582	Georgios H Georgiadis	PANA	4
583	Andreas Lagonikakis	PANA	0
584	Spiridon Maragos	PANA	0
585	Nikolaos Nioplias	PANA	0
586	Juan Jose Borelli	PANA	0
587	Dimitrios Markos	PANA	0
588	Marinos Ouzounidis	PANA	0
589	Jose Semedo	PORT	0
590	Jorge Couto	PORT	0
592	Carlos Secretario	PORT	0
593	Russel Latapy	PORT	0
594	Emerson	PORT	0
595	Peter Lipcsei	PORT	0
596	Al Bino	PORT	0
597	Rui Barros	PORT	8
598	Ian Durrant	RANG	0
599	Stuart McCall	RANG	0
600	Neil Murray	RANG	0
602	Trevor Steven	RANG	0
603	Ian Ferguson	RANG	4
604	Alexei Mikhailichenko	RANG	0
605	Paul Gascoigne	RANG	0
606	Fernando Hierro	REAL	0
607	Michel	REAL	0
608	Luis Milla	REAL	0
609	Fernando Redondo	REAL	0
620	Michael Laudrup	REAL	0
622	Luis Enrique	REAL	0
623	Luis Martinez	REAL	
624	Sandro	REAL	
625	Fredy Rincon	REAL	
626	Roar Strand	ROSE	
627	Tom Kare Staurvik	ROSE	
628	Karl-Petter Loken	ROSE	
629	Bent Skammelsrud	ROSE	
630	Jahn Ivar Jakobsen	ROSE	
632	Andrei Konovalov	SPAR	
633	Dmitri Alenichev	SPAR	
634	Vasili Kulkov	SPAR	
635	Valeri Kechinov	SPAR	
636	Andrei Piatnitski	SPAR	
637	Constantin Gilca	STEA	
638	Roland Nagy	STEA	
639	Damian Militaru	STEA	
640	Iulian Filipescu	STEA	
642	Laurentiu Rosu	STEA	
700	Nwankwo Kanu	AJAX	
702	Finidi George	AJAX	
703	Patrick Kluivert	AJAX	
704	Marc Overmars	AJAX	
705	Nordin Wooter	AJAX	
706	Dennis Schulp	AJAX	
707	Kevin Gallacher	BLAC	
708	Stuart Ripley	BLAC	
709	Alan Shearer	BLAC	
720	Chris Sutton	BLAC	
722	Mike Newell	BLAC	
723	Stephane Chapuisat	BORU	
724	Karlheinz Riedle	BORU	
725	Ruben Sosa	BORU	
726	Heiko Herrlich	BORU	
727	Goran Kopunovics	FERC	
728	Zsolt Nagy	FERC	
729	Gabor Zavadszky	FERC	
730	Patrick De Napoli	GRAS	
732	Joel Magnin	GRAS	
733	Nestor Subiat	GRAS	
734	Alexandre Comisetti	GRAS	
735	Ibrahim Ali	GRAS	
736	Udi Duke	GRAS	
737	Eric Viscaal	GRAS	
738	Alessandro Del Piero	JUVE	
739	Fabrizio Ravanelli	JUVE	
740	Gianluca Vialli	JUVE	
742	Michele Padovano	JUVE	
743	Viktor Leonenko	KIEV	
744	Sergei Skachenko	KIEV	
745	Sergei Rebrov	KIEV	
746	Sergei Konovalov	KIEV	
747	Jerzy Podbrozny	LEGI	
748	Tomasz Unton	LEGI	
749	Cezary Kucharski	LEGI	
750	Andrzej Kubica	LEGI	
752	Annor Aziz	LEGI	
753	Japhet N'Doram	NANT	
754	Nicolas Ouedec	NANT	
755	Reynald Pedros	NANT	
756	Laurent Peyrelade	NANT	
757	Roman Kosecki	NANT	
758	Anthony Martins	NANT	
759	Franck Renou	NANT	
760	Georgios Donis	PANA	
762	Krzystof Warzycha	PANA	
763	Domingos	POR	
764	Ljubinko Drulovic	POR	
765	Antonio Folha	POR	
766	Edmilson	POR	
767	Grzegorz Mielcarski	POR	
768	Ally McCoist	RAN	
769	Charlie Miller	RAN	
770	Oleg Salenko	RAN	
772	Mark Hateley	RAN	
773	Gordon Durie	RAN	
774	Brian Laudrup	RAN	
775	Ivan Zamorano	RE	
776	Jose Amavisca	RE	
777	Raul Gonzalez	RE	
778	Juan Esnaider	RE	
779	Harald Brattbakk	RO	
780	Vegard Heggem	RO	
782	Steffen Iversen	RO	
783	Trond Soltvedt	RO	
784	Sergei Rodionov	SP	
785	Mukhsin Mukhamadiev	SP	
786	Andrei Tikhonov	SP	
787	Sergei Yuran	SP	
788	Valeri Velichko	SP	
789	Sergei Nagornyak	SP	
790	Valeri Schmarov	SP	
792	Marius Lacatus	S	
793	Vioel Oin	S	
794	Adrian Ilie	S	
795	Catalin Popa	S	
796	Ion Vladoiu	S	

CHINA

Soldier Hao misses dollar deal

STRIKER Hao Haidong is still combining soccer with his role as a soldier in the Chinese People's Liberation army. As a result, he has missed a record transfer to South America.

Penarol of Uruguay were very impressed with Hao when he played against them twice during a brief visit they made to China in August. After their return they made protracted efforts to sign him, offering his club, August First, a fee of around £165,000, and guaranteeing the player a basic salary of £1,600 a month.

Unfortunately for both Penarol and Hao, there were two big obstacles to his becoming the first Chinese player to go to a South American team.

CFA regulations preclude any player going abroad until he is at least 28 – in order to keep talent at home – and Hao is only 25. Then there was the question of his release from his military service. The authorities had never had such a problem to handle before, and the discussions took so long that eventually Penarol lost patience and withdrew the offer.

Soldiering on ... Hai Haidong of August First

There were more lengthy discussions over the question of Marlboro's sponsorship deal. The company guaranteed to pay the CFA around £850,000 a year, but the arrangement ended in February with the introduction of a law banning cigarette advertising at sporting events.

Now, despite protests from the anti-smoking lobby, the State Committee for Industry and Commerce has treated Marlboro as a special case, and the money is again available.

The Professional League, now in its second season, is creating problems – playing power in particular.

Some of the leading clubs, notably Liaoning, Guangzhou and the champions, Dalian, are finding that players are keen to accept their new freedom but not so keen to keep working at their game. Discipline is becoming harder to impose, with some players turning up for training with mobile phones and pagers.

The Guangzhou coach, Zhou Sui, even lost his job when the players rebelled against his efforts to impose a firmer grip and cut down on their off-field activities. He was succeeded by Zhang Jingtian, and he too has now threatened to quit if the club committee do not give him more backing. Dalian ended the first half of the season in fourth place, four points behind leaders Shanghai, after four successive defeats, and seem to have little chance of keeping their title.

Here too discipline is a problem, and some of their players have been using taxis to get away from training as quickly as possible, in order to concentrate on what is known as 'individual affairs'.

Three players have been sacked from the Olympic squad for that sort of behaviour. They left the training camp early and did not return until next morning.

Liaoning have fallen away badly after a good start, and had only 11 points out of 36 at halfway. Their 6-0 defeat by Guangzhou included the first hat-trick in the League's 18-month history, by Peng Weiguo.

"A dreadful nightmare" was the summing-up by coach Li Shubin, who is now concentrating not on the title but merely on survival.

The team start well, but lack of stamina appears to be the biggest problem. They have conceded 27 goals, easily the highest total, and all but one came in the last hour of play.

ZHENG MING

SAUDI ARABIA

AL HILAL of Riyadh have appointed Brazilian Carlos Roberto as their manager, to succeed his countryman, Sebastiao Lazaroni.

He was dismissed after the 3-1 defeat by Al Nasr in the play-off final of the Saudi Arabian championship. Carlos Roberto is no stranger to the local game, having guided Al Tai to promotion last season.

Polish coach Antony Piechniczeck has signed for Al Nasr, after a five-year spell in the United Arab Emirates.

SYRIA: International Tamer Al-Lawz netted twice in the second half of the Cup Final against Hottin, to give Al Karama a 3-0 victory. Captain Fawwaz Mando scored the other goal from the penalty spot.

IRAQ: Five years after the Gulf War, FIFA has lifted the ban on Iraq. In the first major game staged in Baghdad since 1990, champions Al Zawraa defeated Al Wahadat of Jordan 2-1 in the Asian Club Championship.

LEBANON: Controversial Sierra Leone international Mohamed Kallon has signed for FK Stockholm of Sweden for £330,000. His club, Radamon Tyr, have now signed his brother Kamokay Kallon.

UAE: Several foreign coaches are now on the local scene. Egyptian Mahmoud Al-Gohary is at Al Wahda, Tunisian Fawzi Al-Banzarti is at Al Nasr; Swede Olle Nordin has signed with Al Wasl, and Argentinian Angel Marcos is at Al Ain.

MOHAMED CHBARO

INDIA

CROWD disturbances marred a top match in the new Indian Super Division, with the referee calling a halt eight minutes before the scheduled finish.

A linesman, Udayan Halder, was slapped as some of the Mohammedan Sporting Club team protested against his decision to allow a goal for BN Railways, although the ball did not appear to have crossed the line.

Fans threw bottles and bricks, mounted police invaded the pitch, and referee Ratan Dutta abandoned the match, which had been goalless up to that stage.

The Indian FA studied Mr Dutta's report and watched a video of the incidents, then awarded three points to Railways.

Sporting, leaders at that time, then lost their touch, and after two draws and a 1-0 win over Tollygunge Agragami they had slipped to second and were replaced at the top by Mohun Bagran. East Bengal were third.

Moghuls FC have reached the PNB-DSA Super League final in New Delhi for the first time. They took 18 points from nine qualifying matches and then beat Moonlight 5-4 on penalties in the semi-final, after a goalless draw over 120 minutes.

G C DAS

AFRO-ASIAN CLUB CUP

IN the first leg of the second Afro-Asian Club Cup, poor travellers Esperance of Tunisia drew 1-1 with Thai Farmers Bank of Thailand.

Mid-way through the first half an Esperance free-kick rattled against the crossbar. Unmarked Abelkader Ben Hassan followed it up to earn a vital away goal.

In the 82nd minute Warrawoot Srimaka scored the equaliser for Thai Farmers. Abid of Esperance failed to convert a penalty in the dying minutes.

ATLANTA OLYMPICS

CHINA, Japan and South Korea advanced to the final Olympic qualifying round from preliminary groups A, B and C respectively.

BANGLADESH

THE five-point lead of holders Abahani over rivals Dhaka Mohammedan in the Premier League evaporated when a spirited Youngmen side beat them 2-1 and minnows Arambagh stunned them with a 1-1 draw. After the 14th round both Dhaka Mohammedan and Abahani are level on 33 points.

INDONESIA

PERSIB of Bandung retained the League title beating the favourites Petrokimia Gresik 1- 0 in a scrappy and highly tense final, the culmination of an eight-team round robin championship play-off.

It seems Indonesia have finally found the right chemistry in the new League, forged by the merger of the amateur and semi-pro leagues.

Inspired by captain Robby Darwis, the decider came late in the second half when from a routine build-up Sutiano put away a simple chance to throw 100,000 fans in ecstasy.

Earlier six people died in the stampede at Jakarta's Senayan stadium in the Group B play-off match between Petrokimia and Persib, won by Persib.

KAZAKHSTAN

AFTER the 15th round of the national League, Shakhtijor lead the table with 36 points followed by Taraz (31 points) and last year's champions Elmai (30 points).

OMAN

AL-ALI'S foreign recruit Innocent scored a brilliant hat-trick in the semi-final of Sultan Qabous Cup, in which Al-Ali beat Dohofar 3-2. In the other semi-final Al-Nasr beat Al Ittihad 2-0.

MALAYSIA

PAHANG, helped by a goal feast from their forwards Igor Shkvyrin, Azizol Kamaluddin and Gus Cerror, beat Kedah 3-2, Brunei 2-1, Kualalumber 2-1, and Kelang 1-0 to brighten their title prospects. Selangor's Australian coach Ken Worden was visibly shocked to watch his side drift further from the race when the League top scorer Anwar Abu Bakar saved his side to draw 1-1 with Negri Sembilan.

MALDIVES

VALANCIA finished the League six points ahead of rivals New Radiant. It was Valancia's third League title. New Radiant compensated by winning the President Cup, defeating Victory 3-1.

PHILIPPINES

MAKATI, under coach Aronold Fernandez, have won the first semi-pro league title. In the last two matches they earned full points against Davao and Iligan to finish with 41 points from 18 matches. In the final match season-long leaders Lipa City drew with Quezon City to finish second.

SINGAPORE

IN the nine-team Premier League, the Singapore National team are the unbeaten leaders with 37 points from 13 matches. The National team will not be entitled to receive $70,000 prize money, which will go to the runners-up. Geylang, Darwin and Tiong Bahru are in a close battle for the purse.

AZAM MAHMOOD

Kazu strikes nine times

KAZUYOSHI MIURA put any bad memories of Italy behind him by lifting VERDY KAWASAKI **to the top of the table with nine goals in his first nine games back in the J.League.**

The tally included the second and third J.League hat-tricks of his career, at Kashima Antlers, when Kazu teamed up with old partner Nobuhiro Takeda for the first time this season, and 11 days later at home to Yokohama Flugels.

But Verdy's run of 15 straight wins was stopped when JEF United Ichihara produced three second-half goals to come from one down to win 3-1.

SHIMIZU S PULSE are the surprise team in second place. Daniele Massaro's sharpness in front of goal has made a big difference, for Pulse still do not create many chances, but the contribution of Santos, signed from Kashima Antlers in the break, has also been crucial.

So has the return from injury of former Japan national team defender Takumi Horiike. Only two teams had scored fewer than Shimizu after 10 games, but Pulse had by far the best defensive record.

Shimizu started the stage timidly but gained confidence fast. They have beaten most of their main rivals: Verdy Kawasaki on penalties after a 0-0 draw, Nagoya Grampus Eight 2-0, Urawa Red Diamonds 2-1 and Yokohama Marinos 1-0. Dias has scored some remarkable goals, including one from inside the centre circle against Yokohama Flugels.

Shimizu have signed another Brazilian, defender Marcelo Miguel Delissari, from Guarani. Marcelo captained Brazil at the Under-20 World Championship in April, although he missed the final through suspension.

Sadly, a question mark hangs over an important part of the formula. Nine minutes after Massaro's third J.League goal, against Kashima Antlers, he had to go off with a ligament injury, and may return to Italy for treatment.

The other Italian, Salvatore Schillaci of **JUBILO IWATA**, top scorer in the first stage, is back in action after eight games out through injury.

He missed a penalty on his return, against Sanfrecce Hiroshima, but netted twice in the 5-2 thrashing of Bellmare Hiratsuka. That restored his lead in the scoring rankings just as Masahiro Fuduka of Urawa Red Diamonds was catching up. Schillaci has signed a new two-year contract starting in February, reported to be worth £2.2million.

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT have lost some momentum but are maintaining their challenge in third place. Their run of consecutive home wins ended at 13, with an 89th-minute own goal against Cerezo Osaka.

Grampus also conceded last-minute goals in their two other defeats at this stage, 2-0 to Shimizu S Pulse and 3-2 to Verdy Kawasaki. The defeats were the three matches in which Dragan Stojkovic did not play.

Another odd statistic comes from the League table. The top five teams after eight games in the second stage, Verdy Kawasaki, Shimizu S Pulse, Nagoya Grampus Eight, Urawa Red Diamonds and Kashiwa Reysol, were the bottom five teams after eight games in the first stage.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS are trying to become the first team to win two J.League stages in a row and show that some kind of consistency is possible in Japanese football. Four wins on the trot have put them back in contention after losing four of six.

KASHIMA ANTLERS, who looked like running away with the first stage at one point, have taken inconsistency to new heights with dynamic attack and leaky defence.

Former Bayern Munich and Flamengo striker Mazinho will never forget his debut for Antlers at Tokyo's National Stadium, as the biggest typhoon in post-war Japanese history swept towards the capital.

Incredibly, 35,000 fans turned out, nobody drowned, and Mazinho capped a fine debut with the fourth goal in the 4-3 win over front-runners Kashiwa Reysol.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA fired head coach Nicanor after losing four of their first five games and dropping to the foot of the table. The decision was hard to swallow, especially as manager Mitsuru Komaeda was kept on.

Komaeda and Nicanor, who have led the team in partnership since 1991, had announced that they would step down at the end of the stage.

The fans protested by refusing to cheer in the first half of the match with Sanfrecce Hiroshima. That silence was broken in the second half by three goals that briefly put Bellmare back on track with a 4-0 win, but the slump has continued since.

In the first division Edmilson, signed from Matsubara of Brazil, kept **KYOTO SANGA**'s hopes of promotion to next year's J.League alive with six goals in his first three games: one in the first, two in the second, and a hat-trick in the third.

Sanga, managed by Oscar, were third at the halfway point of this year's Japan Football League, the equivalent of the English First Division. They lagged 11 points behind **FUKUOKA BLUX**, who seem to be cruising to a place in next year's J.League, and five behind **OTSUKA**, who cannot go up this time because they do not have J.League affiliate status.

For Sanga, who do have that status, a place in the top two is the minimum requirement for promotion.

Oscar moved in the transfer market as the clouds gathered, snapping up Satoru Mochizuki and Yoshiaki Sato from Urawa Red Diamonds, and Akira Kubota from Gamba Osaka.

But while Mochizuki, especially, made an immediate contribution as the new playmaker, Edmilson, the foreign signing, had to wait his turn as the club's fifth foreigner.

He did not waste it when it came in the final match before the midway point of the League programme, when he helped Sanga to a 5-1 win over Brummel Sendai, and scored the final goal.

At the restart, he scored two in the 4-1 win over Cosmo Oil, then three in the 4-2 victory at Ventforet Kofu. Suddenly, Edmilson and Kyotor Sanga are in the goals and Sanga are closing in on Otsuka, whose 3-1 loss to Toshiba narrowed the gap to two points.

TOSU FUTURS, another J.League affiliate, also maintained their winning ways in fourth place, just one point behind Sanga, but the road has not been easy.

Striker Dragisa Binic proved as temperamental at Tosu as he was at Nagoya Grampus Eight last year and had to be released. Then Yugoslavian manager Ivan Cabrinovic was removed, mainly on the pretext of the language barrier.

Cabrinovic was replaced by Chang Woe-Byong, a former South Korean international who joined the club as a player four years ago and later turned to coaching.

● JAPAN took the football gold in an all-Asian final at the 1995 Universiade in Fukuoka, beating South Korea 2-0 in front of 22,000 fans.

Shigeyoshi Mochizuki netted in the first minute, and another midfielder, Kiyotaka Ishimaru, wrapped up the game in the 52nd minute. Russia defeated Ukraine 3-1 to take the bronze.

Japan's first gold was a surprise, for many of the best young players have now skipped university to join J.League clubs. Only three members of the Japanese squad at this year's Under-20 World Championship were students.

MIKE PLASTOW & MICHI ISHIJIMA

Cash for Kobe

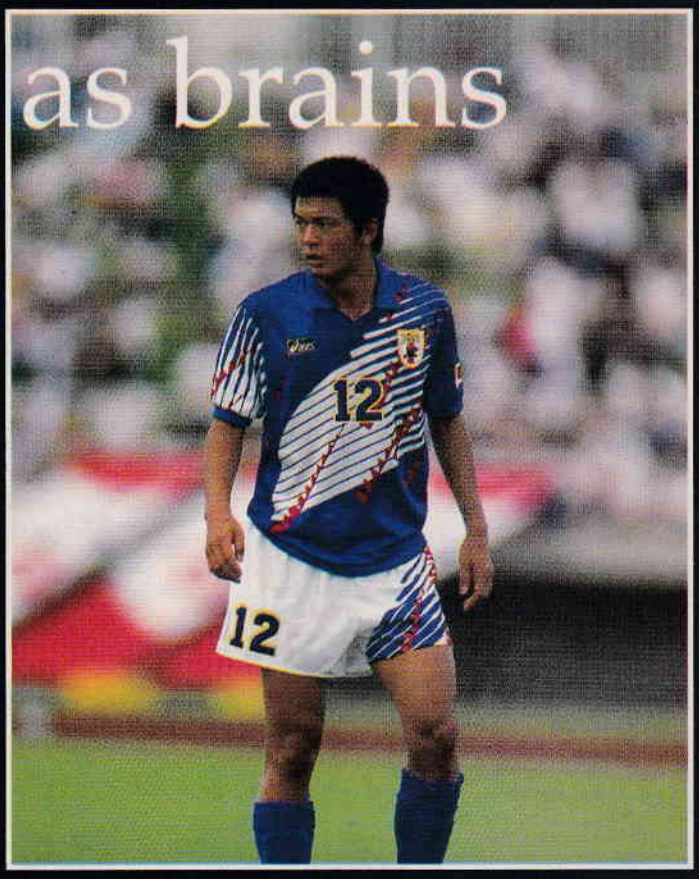
THE Pan-American All-Stars made short work of the Rest of the World in the FIFA charity match for the Kobe Earthquake Appeal, cruising to a 5-1 victory.

But the result did not matter nearly as much as the million-dollar cheque for Kobe and the huge entertainment afforded to the 42,888 fans.

Old-timers Zico and Littbarski played part of the game and 15 foreign imports to Japan also took part.

They included Dunga, Zinho, Jorginho, Cesar Sampaio, Medina Bello, Buchwald, Stojkovic, Massaro, Tataw and Protasov.

Boots as well as brains



THE ARRIVAL of so many foreigners since the start of the J.League has masked a more fundamental change in Japanese football – the rise of the teenage professional.

Almost all the current Japan national team finished university, but they may be nearly the last generation to do so.The torch-bearer was nimble JEF United Ichihara striker Shoji Jo. He joined the club straight out of high school and promptly teamed with Frank Ordenewitz and Pierre Littbarski in a fearsome offensive formation.

Jo scored five times in his first four J.League games at the start of the 1994 Suntory Series, and was selected for Falcao's national team. Now, at 20, and with nine goals to his credit this season, he has been recalled to Shu Kano's squad for matches with Paraguay, Saudi Arabia and Uzbekistan.

JEF have since gone for teenagers in a big way. Defenders Takayuki Chano and Kazuhiro Suzuki and midfielder Tadahiro Abika also are in their side.

Yokohama Marinos may be heading that way. Keeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi had his 20th birthday in August, but Marinos still finished their recent 3-1 win over Urawa Red Diamonds with four teenagers on the pitch: defenders Naoki Matsuda and Ryuji Kubota, midfielder Akihiro Endo and striker Sotaro Yasunaga.

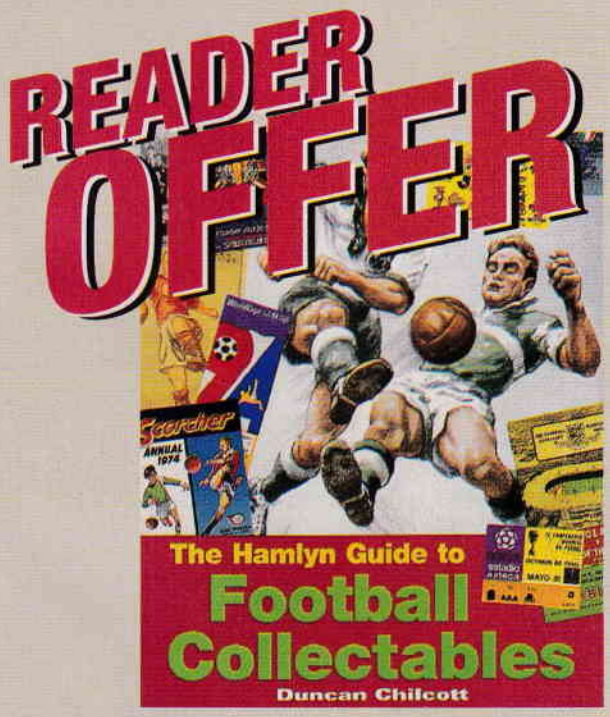
Near neighbours Yokohama Flugels fielded two 18-year-old strikers in their starting line-up against Shimizu S Pulse the following Saturday – Takayuki Yoshida and Brazilian Rodrigo – plus 19-year-old keeper Seigo Narazaki.

Other teenagers include midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata (18) of Bellmare Hiratsuka, with seven goals in 18 appearances; defender Ryuzo Morioka (19) of Shimizu S Pulse; midfielder Takashi Fukenishi (19) of Jubilo Iwarta; and Tetsuhiro Kina (18) of Nagoya Grampus Eight, injured after excellent work on the right wing at the end of this year's first stage.

Inexperience has cost teams dearly on several occasions, but the opportunities to play alongside world-class stars offers an unparalleled experience and an enormous incentive for other young talent to skip university.

This education-minded country may never be the same again.

MIKE PLASTOW & MICHI ISHIJIMA



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MEXICO

Ardiles may follow Carbajal out

TWO well-known newcomers moving to Mexico from Europe have had very different fortunes so far.

Former Tottenham favourite Ossie Ardiles, who took over as manager of Guadalajara, has failed to justify his presence and there must be some doubt about his future after only five games. Three other coaches have gone already!

Ossie's first game in charge was a catastrophic 4-0 defeat by Leon, and his team won only one of their next four matches.

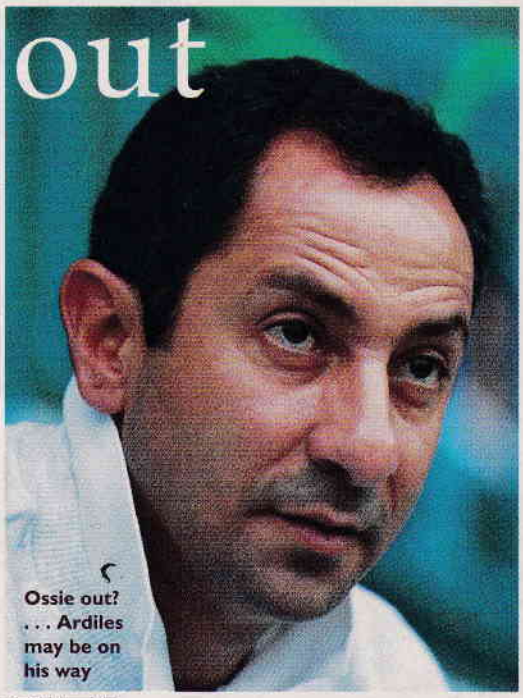
Emilio Butragueno, the 'Vulture' from Spain, has done much better with recently-promoted Atletico Celaya. The veteran striker is still a force on the field, and he has helped his new club to joint first place in their group alongside America, the club now coached by Argentinian Marcelo Bielsa.

Another long-serving player enjoying a new lease of life is Brazilian Milton Queiroz, known as Tita. He moved to Mexico six years ago, has now rejoined Leon from Puebla, and has become the crowd's darling, scoring eight times in five matches.

The three managers to quit include Antonio Carbajal, the only man to appear in the final stages of five World Cups. He had spent 11 successive seasons with Atletico Morelia, but has decided to go after his team's poor start to the season.

Anibal Ruiz was fired as coach of Vera Cruz, because of bad results, and Puebla's Alfredo Tena left after a dispute over his contract.

CARLOS RAMIREZ



Ossie out? . . . Ardiles may be on his way

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CANADA

Latin test for Canadians

CANADA's national soccer team, ignored at home by fans and media alike, takes off for South America in October for a three-game tour.

They play Chile in Santiago on October 11, Bolivia in La Paz on October 15 and Peru in Lima on October 18. The tour is the first time Canada has been successful in negotiating an appearance fee to play abroad. The sum involved for all three games is said to be close to £70,000.

Canadian coach Bobby Lenarduzzi will be without most of his European-based players for this trip, coming as it does at the height of the season. However, it will give badly needed international experience to a number of talented home based players.

With the end of the domestic season approaching across most of the country numerous cup finals are being played.

In the Spectator Cup, which celebrates its 100th anniversary next year, Hamilton Star won the trophy of the sixth year running. In the Ontario Cup, awarded to the champions of the province, Windsor Croatia beat Sarnia Bluewater Blaze.

COLIN JOSE

HONDURAS

MOTAGUA turned in the best performance of the new season's opening weekend with a 4-1 defea of Independiente Villela. Ramon Romero and Brazilian Denilson Costa capitalised on first-half chances, while Peruvian David Wendell and Presley Carson each scored in the second half.

A tense 2-2 draw between Marathon and Real Maya resulted in four yellow cards and three sending-offs. 'real Maya goalkeeper Miguel Melendez was man of the match, foiling at least six clear Marathon opportunities in the second half alone.

Without the presence of Panamanian striker Percibal Piggott, who joined from El Salvador's Luis Angel Firpo, defending champions Victoria could only draw with Broncos.

GUATEMALA

XELAJU's start to the new League season has been indifferent at best. They waver near the bottom of the table and only Cesar Trujillo and Walter Gonzalez have shown any attacking ability, each scoring twice.

Champions Comunicaciones continue to record strong performances, including a solid 3-1 victory over Tally-Juca. Honduran Milton Nunez, who topped the table last season with 22 goals, registered his first this year in the 77th minute.

EL SALVADOR

DEFENDING champions FAS opened the new season with two wins and have been tipped as favourites to regain their title.

A tense battle against rivals Alianza yielded five yellow cards, but two first-half goals clinched the victory fo FAS. Erber Burgos and Guatemalan Julio Rodas scored in the 36th and 44th minutes respectively.

The match also marked the Alianz debut of Costa Rican striker Claudio Jara, who it is hoped will lift his team out of recent doldrums. He replaces Oscar Ulloa, ironically now with FAS

COSTA RICA

DEFENDING champions Saprissa have won their first four matches, including a 3-1 victory over CONCACAF champions Cartagines. In that match, Javier Wanchope scored twice, while Michael Meyers added the other.

Alajuela, despite losing top scorers Juan Carlos Arguedas, to UAG of Mexico, and US international Roy Lassiter, are only two points off the pace. 'La Liga' also upset Mexico's UAG to advance to the semi-finals of the CONCACAF Champions Cup. After drawing 3-3 on aggregate, both teams having registered 2-1 home wins, Wilmer Lopez scored 14 minutes into extra-time to guarantee victory.

SCOTT GLEB

AUSTRALIA

Frank's back!

Paul Moon follows the trail of a wandering Socceroo

THE Australian Soccer Federation, often criticised for its lack of public relations acumen, deserved all the praise it received after superbly handling the retirement from international football of Frank Farina *(pictured below)*.

The ASF staged a fluently-run function in honour of Farina before the Australia v Ghana clash in Sydney, and 75 minutes into that match they orchestrated a standing ovation for the 30-year-old as he was substituted. Flowers and champagne were presented to him as he left the pitch.

The tributes were appropriate, for Farina has been a fine servant of Australian soccer. He represented his country in 67 matches over 13 years, and 37 'A' internationals yielded him 10 goals.

Farina can thank two Australian Institute of Sport coaches, Jimmy Shoulder and Ron Smith, for putting him on the road to success. They spotted his talent while conducting a clinic at the Queensland holiday resort of Cairns in 1981 and, a year later, Farina was enrolled in the Canberra-based AIS.

He quickly emerged as the star pupil and was drafted into the Australian side for 1983's World Youth Cup finals. Farina's headed goal, which earned a 1-1 draw against hosts Mexico in the tournament opener before 110,000 at the Azteca Stadium, remains among his favourite soccer memories.

Back home, Farina remained in the federal capital after graduating from the AIS, joining Canberra Arrows, and in May 1984 he made his national senior team debut against touring English club Nottingham Forest. By late 1986 he had joined Sydney City, and a regular Socceroos place had been secured.

A fine goal against Yugoslavia, as Australia reached the 1988 Olympic Games quarter-finals, confirmed his ability to the many European club representatives sent to watch him in Seoul. Not until 12 months later, however, did Farina join Club Brugge, as a result of a deal negotiated by an Israeli agent he met when on World Cup qualifying duty in Tel Aviv.

Farina left Australia having gained championship medals with Sydney City and Marconi following a £16,000 transfer in 1988. Twice he was voted the League's Most Entertaining Player, twice he was the League's leading scorer, and in 1988 he received both the Australian and Oceania Footballer of the Year trophies.

His 30 months in Belgium also produced glittering prizes. In 1989-90, Brugge won the championship and Farina was the League's top scorer with 24 goals. During the following season, he helped his club win their domestic Cup.

Bologna and Genoa tried to sign him, only to be discouraged by the transfer fee required. Naturally the prospect of playing in Italy appealed to Farina, and he was furious when Brugge declined to lower their price before his contract expired in June 1991. By that time, Bari had joined the hunt, and eventually they paid £1,250,000 for him.

Sadly, Farina's stint in Italy proved frustrating. After eight Serie A appearances and no goals, he was discarded when Bari decided to field David Platt, Robert Jarni and Zvonimir Boban as their foreign complement. Little good it did them, for at the season's end they were relegated.

Farina then endured six months of inactivity as Bari tried to negotiate a loan deal for him. A temporary move to Sheffield Wednesday fell through following lengthy discussions, and when Farina eventually played in the English First Division, he had a mere handful of games for relegation-bound Notts County.

His European career never regained momentum after the Italian disappointment. Two seasons in France with Strasbourg were marred by indifferent form, injuries and their resentment of time consumed by his Australian national team duty. A transfer to Lille in 1994 brought little joy, either, and there too the sidelines were not unfamiliar to him.

On the international stage, though, such annoyances have been fewer. Farina played an important part in Australia's valiant attempt to qualify for USA '94 and provided one of the campaign's highlights, scoring with an overhead kick against Canada.

On several occasions he had to play as a deep-lying winger-cum-midfielder for the Socceroos, rather than in the much more familiar striker's role. This restricted the number of goals he scored, but several of those he obtained were truly spectacular efforts.

When Lille gave him a free transfer, he seemed set to return to Belgium, and negotiations with Waregem reached such an advanced stage that many European magazines reported a move had been completed. At the eleventh hour, however, Farina decided Queensland presented a better option as he wound down his playing days, and he signed for Brisbane Strikers.

This unexpected development has given domestic soccer a much-needed lift, adding to the League's credibility, lifting the game's media profile, and providing the ASF with abundant promotional opportunities. Already the public at large have been impressed by the charm and amiability of this local boy made good.

Frank Farina still has much to offer Australian soccer.

NEW ZEALAND

Woolston leave it late

THE eight participants in the national round of the Superclub Championship have been decided.

The South provided the closest finish, with Woolston WMC needing a goal in the last minute of their final – scored by Scottish striker Mike Flanigan against Christchurch United – to pip Christchurch Rangers.

In the Northern region, Waikato United – despite reverting to amateur status because of severe financial problems – outlasted Ellerslie and Mount Wellington to claim the third qualifying place behind Waitakere City and North Shore United.

Nelson United comfortably retained third spot in the Central zone, even without leading scorer Batrum Surri, on international duty for the Solomon Islands, during the last two games.

Surri's last goal before leaving, the winner against fourth-placed Wellington United, proved crucial to Nelson's success. They go into the national round with Napier City and Miramar.

● WAITAKERE CITY were far too polished for an off-form North Shore United and retained the Chatham Cup with a 4-0 win in Napier. Geoff Gray (2), Darren Mclennan and Thomas Edge scored the goals.

TAHITI

TAHITI became the most successful team in South Pacific Games history when taking gold medals for the fifth time, with a 2-0 victory over the Solomon Islands in Papeete.

The Tahitians always held command against a Solomons side drained by a long and arduous semi-final with Fiji, which was decided by a penalty shoot-out.

Holders Fifi, without nine leading players who had been suspended for off-the-field indiscretions during a recent tour, gained some consolation when winning the third-place play-off. The beat Vanuatu 3-0.

FIJI

SUVA secured their second major trophy of the Fijian season when defeating neighbours Navua 2-1 at the National Stadium in the Battle of the Giants tournament final.

They have little chance of a clean sweep of domestic honours, because they are well behind surprise leaders Lautoka in the League. Holders Ba and Labassa are still in touch.

PAUL MOON

FOOTBALL COACHES AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Raising our game

THE 1995-96 season is now up and running and our own coaching programmes have kicked off and are well under way.

Already some strange things have happened, notably the poor start made by champions Blackburn Rovers, proving that even the best coaches can suffer times of immense pressure.

Maybe the likes of Ray Harford should invite Harald Oyens to provide an AFCAT session for them.

The influx of real world class stars such as Ruud Gullit and David Ginola can only be to the benefit of the game and must help improve our youngsters as they have the opportunity to watch and play with technically exceptional players.

The England-Colombia game at Wembley recently confirmed that we do have players in this country who can control and pass the ball. All the game needed was some goals.

Comments were made criticising the quality of England's opposition, suggesting the FA should have made an attempt to attract stronger opponents.

Perhaps the critics should have a look at the latest FIFA Rankings.

(For those many AFCAT members in the USA please do not gloat when the positions are No 20 and No 22 are noticed).

Current World Rankings

1 Brazil, 2 Norway, 3 Spain, 4 Germany, 5 Argentina, 6 Italy, 7 Denmark, 8 Mexico, 9 Russia, 10 Portugal, 11 Bulgaria, 12 Colombia, 13 Romania, 14 Switzerland, 15 Sweden, 16 Irish Republic, 17 Netherland, 18 France, 19 Uruguay, 20 USA, 21 Tunisia, 22 England, 23 Egypt, 24 Zambia.

England's position, 10 places below Colombia, is hardly a moral booster with next year's Euro '96 firmly in mind!

We accept there are many things wrong with our game, but surely England are not that bad?

AFCAT is attempting to improve our play by developing better coaches – and the Government's new Policy Paper, 'Sport – Raising the Game' is an excellent and exciting project.

For many years there has been a need for a more co-ordinated approach to sport in this country and the document points a clear pathway from the school sports field to Olympic and World Arenas. It's just a pity that so many committed teachers and coaches have been sacrificed. This policy might benefit the elite, but what about all those not so talented, but dedicated individuals who want to be part of the game?

Anyway back to coaching and AFCAT's ideas for 'Raising the Game'. We are compiling a programme for the year which will cover as much of the country as possible. Before Christmas we will announce opportunities for coaching exchange programmes in conjunction with many of our new friends in Europe and America.

In addition, we will try to involve everyone who attends our coaching days with a slightly different approach which hopefully will help improve their own individual skills and developments.

We had hoped that the new NVQ (National Vocational Qualifications) would encourage and simplify matters with clear and precise guidelines, but that doesn't appear to be the case judging from the details that have been sent out.

If anyone can explain them in plain English, please contact Lord Lucan c/o the Foreign Office. It wouldn't surprise us if everyone had to sit their examinations again (which examinations we hear you say?) just to raise extra revenues.

We should develop a simple system of qualification levels based on people's present experience in the game, whereby your grade allows you to coach at a certain level.

For example:

Grade A	International Level
Grade B	League Youth Level
Grade C	Club Professional Level
Grade D	Non-League Level
Grade E	Junior League Football
Grade F	Other

ROB LITTLEFORD

If members have any opinions on the above please drop AFCAT a line.

Colombian clash . . . Alan Shearer in a tangle at the recent Wembley game

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Big two bar South Africa's way

Mark Gleeson analyses the draw for the forthcoming African Nations Cup

1996 AFRICAN NATIONS CUP DRAW

FIRST ROUND

Group A
Sat Jan 13 South Africa v Cameroon, Soccer City, Johannesburg.
Mon Jan 15 Angola v Egypt, Johannesburg.
Thurs Jan 18 Cameroon v Egypt, Johannesburg.
Sat Jan 20 South Africa v Angola, Johannesburg.
Weds Jan 24 South Africa v Egypt, Johannesburg.
Weds Jan 24 Angola v Cameroon, King's Park, Durban.

Group B
Sun Jan 14 Algeria v Zambia, Free State Stadium, Bloemfontein.
Mon Jan 15 Burkina Faso v Sierra Leone, Bloemfontein.
Thurs Jan 18 Algeria v Sierra Leone, Bloemfontein.
Sat Jan 20 Burkina Faso v Zambia, Bloemfontein.
Weds Jan 24 Sierra Leone v Zambia, Bloemfontein.
Weds Jan 24 Algeria v Burkina Faso, Boet Erasmus Stadium, Port Elizabeth.

Group C
Sun Jan 14 Nigeria v Zaire, Durban.
Tues Jan 16 Gabon v Liberia, Durban.
Fri Jan 19 Gabon v Zaire, Durban.
Sun Jan 21 Liberia v Nigeria, Durban
Thurs Jan 25 Liberia v Zaire, Johannesburg.

Group D
Sun Jan 14 Ivory Coast v Ghana, Port Elizabeth.
Tues Jan 16 Mozambique v Tunisia, Port Elizabeth.
Fri Jan 19 Ghana v Tunisia, Port Elizabeth.
Sun Jan 21 Ivory Coast v Mozambique, Port Elizabeth.
Thurs Jan 25 Ivory Coast v Tunisia, Port Elizabeth.
Thurs Jan 25 Ghana v Mozambique, Bloemfontein.

QUARTER-FINALS
Sat Jan 27 Winner A v Runner-up B, Johannesburg.
Sat Jan 27 Winner B v Runner-up A, Bloemfontein.
Sun Jan 28 Winner C v Runner-up D, Durban.
Sun Jan 28 Winner D v Runner-up C, Port Elizabeth.

SEMI-FINALS
Weds Jan 31 Winner Johannesburg v Winner Port Elizabeth, Johannesburg.
Weds Jan 31 Winner Durban v Winner Bloemfontein, Durban.

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF
Sat Feb 3 Johannesburg.

FINAL
Sat Feb 3 Johannesburg.

HOSTS South Africa's hopes of winning the African Nations Cup at their first attempt have been tempered by a tough first-round draw.

The home nation, given a top-seeded berth and the massive advantage of playing in Johannesburg's high altitude for their opening three matches, have drawn two former winners in Group A. They start against Cameroon, winners in 1984 and 1988, and have to play Egypt, who have won the continent's top prize on three occasions.

This was not the dream draw the organisers were hoping for, because the successful participation of the home country has proved paramount to the success of past events.

The last edition in Tunisia flopped after the hosts were knocked out in the first round, and in 1992 the tournament in Senegal lost spectator appeal when the home team were beaten in the quarter-finals.

South Africa are expected to feature in the frame, but they would have liked an easier passage to the knockout phase.

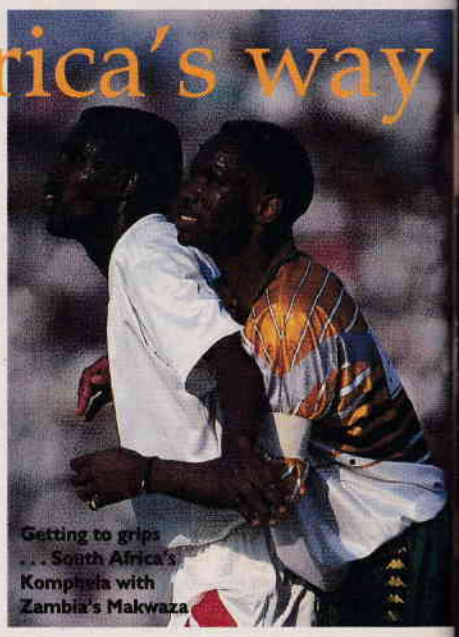
By contrast, other favourites Nigeria and Zambia were both drawn in moderately easy groups, and should have little trouble in reaching the knockout phase.

This is the first time the competition has featured 16 teams, and future commercial success depends largely on how competitive this edition turns out to be.

Certainly Zambia will coast through Group B, drawn alongside Algeria, Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone; and Nigeria are not expected to have many sleepless nights over their Group C opposition: Gabon, Liberia and Zaire. The Super Eagles beat both Gabon and Zaire en route to their emphatic victory in Tunisia last year.

Group D, based in the coastal city of Port Elizabeth, where there is no First Division team in the National Soccer League, includes Ivory Coast and Ghana, renewing their intense rivalry.

The Ivorians edged out Ghana at the end of a protracted penalty shoot-out in the 1992 final, for their first Nations Cup win – and then outplayed the Black Stars in the quarter-finals at the last edition.



Getting to grips ... South Africa's Komphela with Zambia's Makwaza

Mozambique and Tunisia are the other teams in the group, but given their hapless performances at previous final tournaments they are not expected to be involved in the knockout phase.

South African coach Clive Barker believes both Cameroon and Egypt will not match his team. "I'd have even preferred if we had drawn Ghana in our group," he said after the draw.

But in reality he must be more than just a little nervous of the task that lies ahead. South Africa have beaten Cameroon only once in four previous meetings.

The other team in the group Angola, have not warranted much attention since the draw but they too have the potential to upset the home side. The Angolan team survived a tough qualifying passage and have an array of talent at their disposal.

The omens are not good for the hosts – or for African football, desperately in need of this tournament to succeed in order to stake their claim alongside other continental federations in the fight for TV money.

Africa to back Japan World Cup campaign

AFRICA will throw their three votes on the FIFA executive committee behind Japan's bid for the World Cup in 2002.

The decision has not been formally announced, nor will it be, but at a Confederation of African Football meeting in Gaborone, Botswana, an en-bloc vote for Japan was decided.

CAF president Issa Hayatou, one of the three Africans on the FIFA committee, told journalists that all Africa's vote would be cast together for a single candidate.

He would not be any more specific, but other sources inside the committee confirm that Japan can be sure of Africa's support when the decision is taken next June.

The Japanese have been bankrolling extensive coaching clinics throughout the continent, conducted by Bobby Charlton, and have had a visible presence at all major CAF meetings and events over the past two years.

Korea, by contrast, have been late starters, although a high-ranking CAF delegation recently paid a visit to Seoul.

MARK GLEESON

Westerhof's legacy: chaos

IT HAS been 14 months since Clemence Westerhof quit African football's most demanding job – managing Nigeria's Super Eagles.

But the symphony of chaos, conducted by Nigeria's football association chieftains, over the selection of a successor to the burly Dutchman, threatens to ruin any chance of a credible defence of the African Nations Cup in January.

All appeared to be settled with the appointment of BCC Lions trainer Ahmodu Shuaibu as the new manager late last year. But in March of this year, Fabian Duru, chairman of the FA's technical committee, curiously announced that Brazil's 1970 World Cup-winning captain Carlos Alberto Torres was to be the new 'Technical Advisor' of the Super Eagles. In effect, he was to take over the team.

Amid resignation threats from Ahmodu, Carlos Alberto made his managerial debut in Nigeria's US Cup match against Mexico. But then, in a bizarre turn of events, he departed for Brazil for a holiday, from which he never returned.

The FA has since appointed Jo Bonfrere, Westerhof's assistant, in his place. The status of Ahmodu and his assistants, Kelechi Emeteole and Joseph Eric, remains unresolved.

OSASU OBAYIUWANA

Diary

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona, once accused of Mafia links while playing in Italy, says Argentina's Finance Minister Domingo Cavallo is correct in a public admission of concern over the power of Argentina's crime syndicates.
ITALY: National coach Arrigo Sacchi says Gianluca Vialli, overlooked since December 1992, would be recalled soon.
SCOTLAND: UEFA tells Celtic that war-torn and disease-hit Georgia is a "safe and appropriate" venue for their first round Cup-winners Cup match against Dynamo Batumi.
SPAIN: First Division Albacete protest at having been included in the first round of the Cup along with lower division teams.
TURKEY: US goalkeeper Brad Friedel joins Galatasaray from Danish club Brondby.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

ACTION: Portugal beat England 2-0 in a European Under-21 qualifier . . . Bayern Munich extend their 100 per cent record with a 2-0 win over neighbours TSV 1860 . . . La Coruna kick off the new Spanish season with a 3-0 win over Valencia – starting the new season as they ended the last in the cup final. Bebeto scores twice.
COLOMBIA: Parma striker Faustino Asprilla is sentenced, in his absence, to one year in jail for illegal possession of firearms, suspended on condition that he reports monthly to the Colombian consulate in Milan.
ENGLAND: Liverpool are denied a permit for a direct flight when they play Russian League leaders Spartak Vladikavkaz in the UEFA Cup. Vladikavkaz is 30 miles from the border with war-torn Chechnya.
ITALY: Edoardo Bortolotti, 25-year-old former Brescia and Italy Under-21 defender, dies after falling from a third-floor balcony. Police and his family suspect suicide.
SCOTLAND: Injured midfielder Stuart McCall and defender Rob McKinnon withdraw from Scotland's squad to meet Finland.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

ACTION: Portugal are surprisingly held 1-1 at home by Northern Ireland in a Euro '96 qualifier but Croatia thrash Estonia 7-1 with a hat-trick from Davor Suker . . . Real Madrid open their Spanish title defence with a 5-1 win away to promoted neighbours Rayo Vallecano. Gica Popescu scores a League debut goal for Barcelona in their 2-0 win away to Valladolid.
FRANCE: Sampdoria's Christian Karembeu pulls out of France's Euro qualifier against Azerbaijan because of family problems.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona accuses the AFA of victimising past drug test cheats in attempts to clamp down on doping. Maradona says three tests on Boca team-mate Claudio Caniggia in the last four weeks made a mockery of random selection.
DENMARK: The federation calls an emergency meeting to discuss the abandonment of Friday's match between Aalborg and Brondby, 15 minutes before the end, with Brondby leading 2-0, after the crowd set off fireworks.
ENGLAND: Burger King becomes the latest sponsor of the England and Wales national sides . . . Scotland and Wales hint they both want Matthew Le Tissier to play for them.
GERMANY: Coach Hannes Bongartz denies having offered ex-Hamburg goalkeeper Uli Stein a bribe to fix a League match for Kaiserslautern eight years ago. Bongartz had been revealed in a DFB press release as the man named by Stein at a closed-doors inquiry.
ITALY: FIGC president Antonio Matarrese says Italy will play Croatia, after all, in a European qualifier in Split on October 8.
ROMANIA: Barcelona's Gheorghe Hagi opens Romania's most modern dental practice in the centre of Bucharest. First patient is national team manager Anghel Iordanescu.
SOUTH AFRICA: General secretary Mustapha Fahmy says CAF will support UEFA proposals to revolutionise the governing role of FIFA and World Cup finance.
SWITZERLAND: FIFA president Joao Havelange meets representatives of the International Television Consortium to renegotiate finances for the 1998 World Cup finals following the decision to expand the event to 32 teams . . . FIFA says that all 56 dope tests carried out at its international championships this year proved negative.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

ENGLAND: George Graham, ex-manager of Arsenal, says he will not appeal against the FA's 12-month ban for transfer irregularities.
FRANCE: Gerard Gili, who led Marseille to their first Champions Cup semi-final in 1990, returns for a third spell as coach.
GERMANY: The DFB warns ex-international goalkeeper Uli Stein that he could face disciplinary action over bribery allegations.
SWITZERLAND: The draw for the African Olympic qualifying final round is: Zimbabwe v Nigeria, Togo v Guinea, Ghana v Cameroon . . . Swedish champions IFK Gothenburg are ordered by UEFA to play their next home European tie at least 200km away because of crowd incidents in a Champions League preliminary tie against Legia Warsaw . . . Wales' Vinnie Jones, sent off in a Euro '96 qualifier, is banned for five matches, while Veselin Popovic of Yugoslavia's FC Obilic is suspended for three years for spitting at the referee after a Cup-winners Cup tie . . . Russian Alexandre Rytchkov receives a two-year ban for violently pushing the reserve referee after the European Under-21 tie against Finland. UEFA said that, since June, national associations and clubs have been fined a total of £250,000 for poor crowd behaviour, improper conduct on the pitch and bad organisation.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

ACTION: A record 10-0 win for France against Azerbaijan and important wins for Turkey, Scotland, Austria, the Czech Republic and champions Denmark on a night of 21 European qualifiers . . . England draw 0-0 with Colombia in a match made memorable by a remarkable piece of acrobatics from goalkeeper Rene Higuita.
FRANCE: Prime Minister Alain Juppe and FIFA president Joao Havelange lay the foundation stone of the 80,000 all-seater stadium on the outskirts of Paris which will host the 1998 World Cup Final.
GERMANY: Eintracht Frankfurt's Maurizio Gaudino joins Mexican side America on loan.
ITALY: Internazionale forward Marco Delvecchio becomes the first player in Serie A history to be suspended for feigning having been fouled in the penalty area. Parma hit a new setback when their Portuguese defender Fernando Couto is ordered to rest for three weeks with a swollen knee.
SOUTH AFRICA: The draw for next year's African Nations finals is made *(see page 54)*.
SPAIN: Real Madrid's Argentinian midfielder Fernando Redondo says he has told national coach Daniel Passarella he will refuse to cut his long hair because "it forms part of my personality".

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

ACTION: Italy beat Slovenia 1-0 in a European Under-21 tie.
ENGLAND: Bolton's Republic of Ireland midfielder Jason McAteer joins Liverpool for £4.5m . . . the FA reprimands Wembley officials over the inadequate stewarding at the recent game between England and Colombia.
GAMBIA: Real Banjul are suspended from international soccer for a year after a pitch invasion during an African Champions Cup tie.
SWITZERLAND: UEFA are reported ready to punish Switzerland for their players' anti-nuclear protest at the Euro qualifier against Sweden.
TURKEY: Thirty people are injured in traffic accidents or by stray bullets during celebrations after the Euro' 96 victory over Hungary.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

ACTION: Algeria's JS Kabylie beat Hearts of Oak of Ghana 3-1 in an African Cup-winners Cup quarter-final first leg tie.
ARGENTINA: President Carlos Menem backs national coach Daniel Passarella in the row over the length of Fernando Redondo's hair.
ENGLAND: Leeds shelve their bid to sign Parma's Faustino Asprilla but three clubs, including Coventry, are reported interested in Colombia team-mate Rene Higuita.
ITALY: Juventus' Gianluca Vialli says he has decided not to play for his country again . . . Padova's Croat striker Goran Vlaovic is ruled out of action for three or four months.
LUXEMBOURG: The European Court of Justice postpones until September 20 the announcement of its interim decision in the Bosman case.
MOROCCO: The Moroccan government 'relocates' top division club Auxiliary Forces (now Jeunesse Sportive Massira) to the capital of the disputed territory of western Sahara.
SWITZERLAND: FIFA's emergency committee stalls the UEFA insurrection, deciding to refer three points of the European federation's Vision document to the FIFA executive in Paris on December 11. The points in question concern the rotation of the World Cup venue, the composition of the FIFA executive committee and the representation of the various continents on this committee, and the role of the continental federations in world soccer. Two other points raised earlier were dropped by UEFA: the rotation of the FIFA presidency every four years and the merging of four confederations into two, namely Oceania with Asia and CONMEBOL with CONCACAF . . . FIFA reverts to June 1 as the date for a decision between Japan and South Korea as 2002 World Cup hosts.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

ACTION: Favourites Italy have four men sent off, including Alessandro Del Piero and Marco Delvecchio, in a shock 2-1 defeat by Cyprus in the World Military Games . . . Dynamos Mbare of Zimbabwe beat Uganda's Express Red Eagles 1-0 in an African Champions Cup quarter-final, first leg . . . Andrei Kanchelskis is ruled out for six weeks at least after breaking a collarbone in Everton's 3-2 defeat against his old club, Manchester United . . . Paris Saint-Germain tighten their grip on the French League after a 2-1 win over Monaco . . . Jurgen Klinsmann's first two goals for Bayern Munich earn a 2-0 win over Freiburg . . . Benfica fans demonstrate against coach Artur Jorge after a 1-1 home draw against Vitoria Guimaraes . . . Real Madrid concede two late goals and lose 2-1 at home to Bilbao.
BRAZIL: Claudio Taffarel, Brazil's World Cup-winning goalkeeper, announces his retirement from the national team in reaction to ongoing criticism following the Copa America defeat.
HOLLAND: Ajax's Champions Cup-winner Patrick Kluivert suffers minor injuries in a car crash in which another man dies.
ITALY: A League appeals commission overturns the one-match ban imposed on Marco Delvecchio for feigning a foul against Vicenza.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

ACTION: Ajax regain the lead in Holland, beating Sparta Rotterdam 4-0 with two goals in the first 21 minutes from Nigerian Nwankwo Kanu . . . Gianluca Vialli scores twice in Juventus' 4-0 win at Piacenza.
GERMANY: Veteran stars turn out for a charity match to celebrate Franz Beckenbauer's 50th birthday. Beckenbauer plays a half each for a World XI and a German Select. The World XI win 4-2 on pens after an 8-8 draw.
ITALY: Faustino Asprilla clashes again with Parma coach Nevio Scala after being dropped for the day's match against Inter.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

BRAZIL: Flamengo react to Sunday's 2-1 defeat by Corinthians by sacking coach Edinho, five games into the national championship.
PORTUGAL: Artur Jorge, under pressure after Benfica drew two of their first three League matches, resigns as coach. President Manuel Damasio says: "It was a friendly decision." Former Benfica trainer Mario Wilson takes over. Jorge's pay-off is estimated at £600,000.
DENMARK: Midfielder Johnny Vilstrup joins English first division club Luton for £175,000.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

ACTION: Bayern Munich suffer a shock 1-0 home defeat by Lokomotiv Moscow in the UEFA Cup first round, first leg . . . Tony Yeboah scores a brilliant hat-trick for Leeds in Monaco.
BRAZIL: Veteran radio commentator Washington Rodrigues, a 59-year-old with no playing or coaching experience, is astonishingly appointed coach of Flamengo. He says: "It's a challenge I had to accept. History does not remember cowards." Hours later the club is at the centre of further confusion when Romario is rushed to hospital after collapsing first in training and then again in the dressing rooms.
ENGLAND: Portuguese international midfielder Antonio Pacheco joins Aston Villa on trial from Sporting Lisbon . . . Ruud Gullit warns Dennis Bergkamp that it is time for him to produce "that little bit extra" if he is to succeed in the Premiership . . . Derek Fazackerly, who played a record 693 League and Cup games for Blackburn, returns to the club as manager Ray Harford's assistant. He had been coaching at Newcastle . . . Blackburn captain Tim Sherwood apologises to fans for an "angry gesture" made during the weekend draw against Aston Villa.
FRANCE: Paris SG's international goalkeeper Bernard Lama will be out of action for at least a month with a torn thigh muscle.
GERMANY: Ex-international Stephan Engels is formally appointed as replacement for sacked Morten Olsen as Koln coach.
ITALY: The FIGC scraps the controversial new disciplinary regulation that players who take a dive should face an automatic ban . . . Roma's Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern is ruled out for two months after tearing a thigh muscle.
JAPAN: Brazilian defender Jorginho wins the most votes from fans choosing players for the annual 'dream match' between the J.League's foreign and Japanese stars.
SWITZERLAND: UEFA warns all clubs involved in European competition against participating in demonstrations such as the anti-nuclear protest from the Swiss national team.

Diary

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

ACTION: Ajax beat Real Madrid 1-0 to open the new UEFA Champions League.

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona's plan to form a world players' union runs into problems over arrangements for 'phantom' meetings in Europe.

BRAZIL: Leaders of fan clubs in Sao Paulo say their members will not attend a 'game of peace' between Corinthians and Palmeiras on Sunday. The boycott is a response to a court decision to temporarily shut down *Mancha Verde* (Green Spot), the largest and most volatile fan club of national champions Palmeiras . . . Romario leaves hospital in Rio and denies reports he planned to retire after collapsing during training with Flamengo.

JAPAN: Italian striker Salvatore Schillaci, joint top scorer in the J.League with 24 goals, says he will play two more seasons with Jubilo Iwata . . . J.League directors approve a single-series format for the 1996 season.

FRANCE: Monaco s Basile Boli and Marc Delaroche are advised to remain in hospital for another day after being knocked unconscious during the UEFA Cup game against Leeds.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

ACTION: Washington Rodrigues makes a spectacular start as coach of Flamengo with a 3-2 win away to Argentinian championship leaders Velez Sarsfield in the South American Supercup . . . in the first round of the Cup-winners Cup, Feyenoord win 7-0 away to Dag Liepaja of Latvia with a hat-trick from Regi Blinker.

ENGLAND: Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar lifts the home club ban on England coach Terry Venables after a personal plea from FA chairman Sir Bert Millichip.

GERMANY: The DFB clears Borussia Dortmund defender Jurgen Kohler of his hair-pulling expulsion by reasoning that it is physically impossible to grab the hairdo of St Pauli's Michel Dinzey.

ITALY: England and Inter midfielder Paul Ince says he is finding it harder to adapt to Italian soccer than he imagined.

ROMANIA: A Rangers fan is detained in hospital in Bucharest after being struck by a brick thrown by Steaua supporters after Wednesday's Champions League tie.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona insists he still intends to travel to Paris at the weekend for a launch meeting of the world players' union.

BRAZIL: Former World Cup midfielder Dirceu is killed in a car crash.

ENGLAND: Ray Harford, appointed manager of Blackburn during the summer, decides to stop coaching the first team and hand over duties to Derek Fazackerly.

FRANCE: Monaco defender Basile Boli, knocked unconscious on Wednesday when he collided with goalkeeper Marc Delaroche in the closing minutes of the UEFA Cup match against Leeds, is released from hospital.

GERMANY: Defender Markus Babbel scores twice as Bayern Munich beat Kaiserslautern 3-2, preserving their 100 per cent record.

ITALY: Padova are to face disciplinary action because fans unfurled a banner last Sunday in Naples, stating: "Stop the nuclear tests in Mururoa – do them in Naples" . . . Gunnar Nordahl, Milan's Swedish record marksman of the early 1950s, dies in Sardinia aged 72.

SCOTLAND: Celtic deny reports that they intend to check out suspicions rivals Dynamo Batumi fielded ineligible players in the Cup-winners Cup tie on Thursday . . . Rangers consider a protest to UEFA about "building site" conditions at Steaua Bucharest's ground.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

ACTION: Liverpool inflict further misery on Blackburn, beating them 3-0 at Anfield . . . Monaco suffer a third successive home defeat, 1-0 to Metz . . . Borussia Dortmund thrash Stuttgart 6-3 despite the expulsion of Knut Reinhardt . . . Atletico Madrid win the top-of-the-table game in Spain by 2-0 away to Bilbao.

DENMARK: Sweden's Bo Johansson is named as successor when national coach Richard Moller Nielsen's contract expires next June.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

ACTION: The so-called Game of Peace in Brazil, between Palmeiras and Corinthians, ends in violence on the pitch, with two players sent off and another 10 booked . . . Paris Saint-Germain lose their first game of the season, by 1-0 to Montpellier, but stay top . . . promoted St Pauli win 4-1 away to Cup-holders Borussia Monchengladbach . . . two more goals from Nwankwo Kanu inspire Ajax in Holland to a 4-0 win over Go Ahead . . . Juventus edge ahead in Italy, defeating Vicenza 1-0 with a first-half goal in Turin from Gianluca Vialli . . . Real Madrid suffer their second successive home defeat in Spain, falling 3-2 to Oviedo after twice leading.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

FRANCE: Diego Maradona is elected first president of the International Association of Professional Footballers at its inaugural meeting in Paris.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich crash out of the German cup, 3-1 at Fortuna Duesseldorf.

ITALY: Juventus midfielder Vladimir Jugovic is ruled out for a month with a thigh injury . . . Second Division Avellino dismiss Polish coach Zbigniew Boniek after taking just four points from four games. He is replaced by former Inter coach Corrado Orrico . . . Milan agree to buy French midfielder Patrick Vieira, 19, from Cannes at the season's end.

SWEDEN: National coach Tommy Svensson agrees to extend his contract until 1998.

ZIMBABWE: Police separate brawling players at the end of Guinea's 2-0 win over Algeria in the All-Africa Games at Harare after an Algerian player butts the Guinean goalkeeper.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

ENGLAND: The British government is reported ready to activate tough immigration laws to ban foreign troublemakers from entering the country for the Euro '96 finals.

ITALY: Parma say they have "resolved our differences" with Colombian striker Faustino Asprilla and he will be staying with the club.

PORTUGAL: UEFA's executive launches an inquiry into the conduct of English clubs regarding team selection and general match arrangements during the Inter-toto Cup . . . UEFA president Lennart Johansson says he may run for the presidency of FIFA in 1998.

SWITZERLAND: World champions Brazil maintain their lead in the FIFA world rankings . . . FIFA says it is taking a wait-and-see approach to Maradona's new players union.

TURKEY: A Turkish all-star team beat an International XI 4-1 in Istanbul to raise money for the orphaned children of war-torn Bosnia.

ZIMBABWE: Nigerian officials attack FIFA's for "shoddy and unfair" treatment of the African continent. Jim Nwobodo, Nigeria's sports minister, says: "FIFA treats Africa shabbily, and when the time for voting comes, its officers are out there asking us for votes, asking for powers. FIFA's rules need to be re-examined. Whichever block gives suggestions that will improve how we are treated, that block we shall support."

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

ACTION: Friendly internationals victories for Yugoslavia (2-0 away to Greece), Israel (3-1 home to Uruguay), Paraguay (2-1 away to Japan) and Spain (2-1 home to Argentina).

ENGLAND: The North Sea Ferries company, which says it will refuse to carry supporters to England for Euro '96, is accused of "living in the past" by tournament director Glen Kirton.

FRANCE: Frederic Devacht, a Lens supporter who spat at visiting Lyon goalkeeper Pascal Olmeta, is banned from his home stadium for a year . . . Patrice Loko rejoins the club's first team squad for training . . . a poll of French players finds 90 per cent want a longer break in the summer and shorter break in midwinter.

LUXEMBOURG: A legal bombshell explodes beneath the European – and world – game as Carl Otto Lenz, an advocate-general at the European Court of Justice, rules in the Jean-Marc Bosman case that soccer is contravening European Union law by allowing clubs to demand transfer payments for players whose contracts have expired. He also outlaws restrictions on the number of foreign players allowed to play in club competitons.

PORTUGAL: UEFA's disciplinary commission kicks Kiev Dynamo out of the Champions League for trying to bribe Spanish referee Antonio Lopez Nieto before last week's 1-0 win over Panathinaikos. Kiev are barred overall for two years . . . UEFA president Lennart Johansson confirms that Europe will field a candidate in FIFA's 1998 presidential elections but refuses to say he will be the man.

RUSSIA: Bitraz Bitarov, general manager of leaders Spartak Vladikavkaz is suspended for the rest of the season for a post-match brawl with Torpedo Moscow's Valentin Ivanov.

SPAIN: Real Madrid's auditors produced a report stating that the club are £60million in debt and even managed to end up with a £10million operating loss in last season's championship-winning season. President Ramon Mendoza will come under pressure to resign at the annual meeting on October 22.

TURKEY: Diego Maradona attacks other stars for failing to turn up at a charity match to raise funds for Bosnian refugee children.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

ACTION: Egypt beat Nigeria 1-0 and hosts Zimbabwe defeat Guinea 3-0 in the semi-finals of the All-Africa Games in Harare.

DENMARK: The Laudrup brothers, Michael and Brian, pay a flying visit home to Copenhagen to open their new travel agency.

ENGLAND: Blackburn sell midfielder Mark Atkins to First Division Wolves for £1million.

GERMANY: Jurgen Klinsmann says that Bayern Munich will be his last club . . . Germany striker Fredi Bobic extends his contract with Stuttgart until June, 1999.

ITALY: Milan confirm French midfielder Patrick Vieira will join them from Cannes in November.

PORTUGAL: UEFA's competitions committee selects Aalborg to replace disgraced Kiev Dynamo in Group A of the Champions League. . . . FIFA's Sepp Blatter appears to calm European fears about World Cup finances in an address to the UEFA conference in Oporto.

SCOTLAND: The draw for the semi-finals of the League Cup is made: Rangers v Aberdeen and Dundee v Airdrie.

SOUTH AFRICA: Uncapped striker Sean Dundee, of Karlsruhe, is named in South Africa's squad for a friendly against Mozambique.

SOUTH KOREA: Diego Maradona arrives in Seoul for a nine-day visit which will climax with his first match in 15 months, against the South Korean national team.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

BELGIUM: Anderlecht protest to UEFA ab[illegible] the selection of Denmark's Aalborg to take [illegible] Champions League place from Kiev Dynamo.

ENGLAND: Proposals for the redevelopm[illegible] of Wembley Stadium are revealed as likely [illegible] cost £168million.

GERMANY: The Rhineland Interior Minis[illegible] demands that Mario Basler be expelled fr[illegible] the German national team if reports are prov[illegible] that he insulted a Moroccan opponent – am[illegible]teur midfielder Abderrahim Ouakili of secon[illegible] division Mainz – after Werder Bremen's 3-[illegible] victory in a first-round Cup game.

GREECE: Panathinaikos praise UEFA's dec[illegible]sion to ban Kiev Dynamo from the Champion[illegible] League. Coach Juan Ramon Rocha says: "It [illegible] good for soccer to have mechanisms whic[illegible] stop scandals fast and in the right way. It [illegible] just a pity that clubs with the history [illegible] Dynamo or Marseille have to pay for the st[illegible]pidity of some of their officials."

ITALY: Inter president Massimo Moratti offers [illegible] vote of confidence to coach Ottavio Bianchi. "Th[illegible] average age of our team is 23 but the boys mu[illegible] still realise we have high aims," he says.

PORTUGAL: UEFA gives the go-ahead fo[illegible] next month's Croatia v Italy European qualifie[illegible] to be played in Split.

SOUTH KOREA: Diego Maradona begins a tou[illegible] to help promote South Korea's 2002 World Cu[illegible] bid by warning that Japan are powerful riva[illegible] because their financial strength "could sway mafia [illegible] elements" in the game's corridors of power.

UKRAINE: Dynamo Kiev ask the Ukrain[illegible] public prosecutor to help fighting UEFA's dec[illegible]sion to expel them from the Champions [illegible] League. Club vice-president Viktor Medvechu[illegible] says: "We will ask UEFA's appeals board no[illegible] to take any decision regarding Dynamo Kie[illegible] until they receive the prosecutor's report."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

ACTION: Egypt beat Zimbabwe 3-1 in the final of the All Africa Games . . . Blackburn [illegible] Alan Shearer, Leeds' Tony Yeboah and Liverpool's Robbie Fowler all score hat-tricks in England . . . Bayern Munich beat second-placed Bayer Leverkusen 1-0 to achieve a record seven successive victories from the start of the season . . . Real Madrid are held 0-0 away to Betis in Spain.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

ACTION: The holders of Africa's top two club tournaments crash out at the quarter-finals stage. Champions Cup holders Esperance of Tunisia lose to Ismailia of Egypt while Cup-winners Cup holders Daring Club Motema Pembe of Zaire go down to Julius Berger of Nigeria . . . Milan beat Atalanta 3-0 to go clear top in Italy as Juventus are held 0-0 by Cagliari.

BELGIUM: Waregem sack Aime Anthuenis the fifth coach to go in Belgium this season.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA rejects Kiev's appeal against the Champions League expulsion.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

ENGLAND: Aston Villa end Portuguese international Antonio Pacheco's month-long trial after only 10 days.

ITALY: Inter sack coach Ottavio Bianchi and appoint Luis Suarez as caretaker.

SCOTLAND: Rangers sell veteran striker Mark Hateley to Queens Park Rangers for £1m.

SOUTH KOREA: Local fans turn on Diego Maradona after he cancels three promotional events including a children's soccer clinic.

UKRAINE: A state prosecutor launches a criminal inquiry into allegations that Dynamo Kiev executives tried to bribe referee Lopez Nieto.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

ACTION: Bayern Munich hit back in Moscow to defeat Lokomotiv 5-0 and win 5-1 on aggregate in the UEFA Cup. But Manchester United lose on the away goals rule to Rotor Volgograd, despite a goal from keeper Peter Schmeichel in the last minute, and troubled Internazionale fall to Lugano.

UNITED STATES: The USSF dismiss Olympic team coach Timi Liekoski in the delayed wake of disappointing results at the Panamerican Games . . . the scheduled international between the United States and Yugoslavia, set for November 12 in San Jose, California, is cancelled on political grounds.

WALES: Ryan Giggs, the Manchester United winger, now clearly fit again, is recalled to the national squad by new Wales manager Bobby Gould.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

ACTION: Jari Litmanen hits a hat-trick as Ajax win 5-1 in the Champions League away to Ferencvaros. Emergency replacements Aalborg go down bravely, 2-0, away to FC Porto.

ENGLAND: Peter Schmeichel, following his goal-scoring success against Rotor, learns that he has been voted Europe's top goalkeeper in the annual international statisticians' poll. Jose Luis Chilavert of Paraguay is the overall winner.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

ACTION: La Coruna score eight away to Apoel Nicosia of Cyprus in the Cup-winners Cup.

BRAZIL: A new disagreement between FIFA president Joao Havelange and Brazil's Sports Minister, Pele. Havelange dismisses Diego Maradona's new world players' union but Pele gives the project cautious support.

GERMANY: Jean-Pierre Papin says he wants to quit Bayern Munich because coach Otto Rehhagel cannot apparently be bothered to say why he is not in the team.

PORTUGAL: Porto's Polish striker Grzegorz Liecarski is ruled out for four or five months after damaging knee ligaments in the Champions League victory over Aalborg.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

ENGLAND: ITV decide to drop Blackburn as their live Champions League network match next time out and show Juventus v Rangers instead . . . players' union leader Gordon Taylor appeals for players and officials to play fair with Eric Cantona as he prepares to return for Manchester United against Liverpool . . . Former Leed winger Albert Johanneson, who in 1965 became the first black player to appear in an FA Cup Final, is found dead at his home, aged 55.

GERMANY: Berti Vogs can, at last, pick a full-strength squad for the European qualifier against Moldova with Reuter, Sammer, Hamlich and Kahn all available after injury or suspension . . . the DFB decides that, though Uli Stein's bribe attempt claims appear to have some basis in fact, no action will be pursued against ex-Kaiserslautern coach Hannes Bongartz because of the time lapse.

ITALY: Inter president Massimo Moratti says that Switzerland's national manager, Roy Hodgson, is his top target to succeed dismissed Ottavio Bianchi.

SWITZERLAND: South Korea's bid committee presents its formal application to FIFA to host the 2002 World Cup finals . . . FIFA welcomes the creation of an international agents' association . . . the draw for the second round of the Cup-winners and UEFA Cups takes place in Geneva.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

ACTION: Metz beat Auxerre 3-1 to go top, at least temporarily, in France . . . Rangers win 2-0 away to old rivals Celtic to leapfrog over them back to the top of the table in Scotland. . . . in Spain, Real Madrid are held 1-1 at home by Barcelona.

ENGLAND: Nigerian Daniel Amokachi is released from hospital two days after being knocked unconcious in Everton's Cup-winners Cup-tie against KR Reykjavik . . . Tottenham agree to pay Newcastle £4.4m for ex-Norwich forward Ruel Fox.

GERMANY: Bayern president Franz Beckenbauer describes Jean-Pierre Papin as "a child" for his transfer-seeking reaction at being omitted from the first-team attack.

SOUTH KOREA: Diego Maradona makes his comeback as Boca Juniors beat the South Korean national team 2-1 in front of 70,000 – including Presidents Kim and Menem – in Seoul's Olympic stadium.

OBITUARIES

HAROLD SHEPHERDSON . . . former Middlesbrough and England trainer, dies aged 76. Shepherdson was England's trainer for a record-breaking 171 games and four World Cups, including the victorious 1966 campaign.

DIRCEU . . . former Brazil midfielder, is killed in a car crash, aged 43. A passenger in his car also dies in the accident at a notorious Rio blackspot. Dirceu, full name Dirceu Jose Guimaraes, played for Brazil in the 1974, 1978 and 1982 World Cups and missed the 1986 tournament only because of injury. He scored some spectacular goals from long range, including two against Peru in a 1978 World Cup tie and another in the third-place play-off against Italy. Dirceu made his full international debut against Austria in 1973 and went on to win 26 caps, the last in 1986 against Chile. He played for 14 clubs in his 21-year career, including Italian clubs Verona, Ascoli, Napoli and Como, Spanish club Atletico Madrid and Mexican sides America and Leon. He retired in 1988 at 36 while at Rio de Janeiro club Vasco da Gama, after a squabble with the board. He made a brief comeback this year with Mexican second division side Yucatan but left after four months.

GUNNAR NORDAHL . . . one of Sweden's greatest centre-forwards and a record marksman with Milan in the early 1950s, dies in Alghero, Sardinia, aged 72. Nordahl formed, with compatriots Gunnar Gren and Nils Liedholm, the legendary Grenoli Trio. Led by Nordahl, Milan won the championship in 1951 and 1955 and he went on to score 210 goals for the club, a mark no subsequent Milan player has equalled. Nordahl started with Degerfors and moved to IFK Norrkoping before joining Milan in 1949. He stayed there until 1956 when he played for Roma for two seasons.

DAVE BOWEN . . . former Wales international left-half, has died aged 67. Bowen played for Northampton and Arsenal in the 1950s and 19 times for his country. Later he managed Northampton from fourth division to first division and back again.

ALBERT JOHANNESON . . . the first black player to have appeared in an FA Cup Final when he was an outside left for Leeds against Liverpool in 1965, is found dead at his home in Leeds aged 55.

X-WORD

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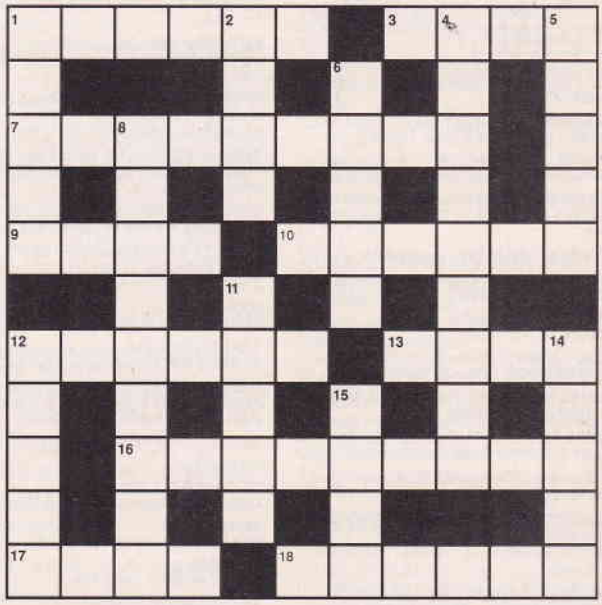
LAST MONTH'S WINNERS:
Andri Hermannsson, Hafnarfjordu, Iceland, **Antonio Pacheco De Ocana**, Madrid, Spain, **Lene Dam Damsgard**, Odense, Denmark, **Heiko Luckey**, Rheinbach, Germany, **Vikramaditya Motwane**, Bombay, India.

LAST MONTH'S SOLUTION
ACROSS: 2. Famagusta 6. Inter 7. Nilis 9. Alemao 10. Raul 12. Esch 14. Zarate 17. Turci 18. Szabo 19. Goycochea
DOWN: 1. Chilavert 2. Futre 3. Moreau 4. Ganz 5. Salsa 8. Silkeborg 11. Rausch 13. Cerny 15. Ayala 16. Figo

CLUES ACROSS
1 .....Italy's Carlo Castellani club banished from Serie A in 1988 (6)
3 .....Ex-Montpellier coach who returned to Marseille as Bourrier's successor (4)
7 .....Passarella's Copa America contenders scuppered by the USA (9)
9 .....Jose, Sporting Cristal's former Alianza defender skippering Peru (4)
10 .....Former Lokomotiv Moscow forward recently FC Twente's record signing (6)
12 .....European club champions, 1986 (6)
13 .....Swiss international striker in Germany with Stuttgart and Karlsruhe (4)
16 .....Former Stuttgart and Denmark forward returned to AaB (9)
17 .....Rapid Bucharest coach dismissed in 1995 (4)
18 .....Dusseldorf's Macedonian, a Golden Boot winner with Red Star Belgrade (6)

CLUES DOWN
1 .....Manager directing Liverpool's European return (5)
2 .....Home town of Austria's LASK (4)
4 .....Club building upon three-year reign as Icelandic champions (1.1.7)
5 .....Benfica's newly acquired Bulgarian defender from Levski Sofia (5)
6 .....African nation whose clubs include Zumunta, Olympia and Sahel SC (5)
8 .....Nacional midfielder amongst Uruguay's Copa America winners (9)
11 .....Parma's former Torino defender capped by Sacchi (5)
12 .....Manager of Glasgow Rangers (5)
14 .....Bulgaria's national team coach (5)
15 .....Marian, leading scorer with Romania's FC National (4)



Compiled by Christine Ansell

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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POSTCODE _____

NOV

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

WEEKEND

SALZBURG 2 GRAZER AK 1; LINZ 1 VORWARTS STEYR 0 ; SV RIED 0 AUSTRIA WIEN 0 ; RAPID WIEN 1 ADMIRA WACKER 1; STURM GRAZ 2 INNSBRUCK 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

AUSTRIAN CUP – 2ND RND

BAUMGARTEN 1 RAPID WIEN 6; FELDKIRCHEN 0 SV RIED 1; LEIBNITZ 1 LINZER ASK 2; MARCHTRENK 0 STURM GRAZ 5; TRAUN 1 VORWARTS STEYR 3; TRIMMELKAM 1 INNSBRUCK 8; WACKER INNSBRUCK 0 SALZBURG 5; ZWETL 0 ADMIRA WACKER 3; LENDROF 1 GRAZER AK 1; MATTERSBURG 0 AUSTRIA WIEN 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

GRAZER AK 4 SV REID 2; INNSBRUCK 1 SALZBURG 1; RAPID WIEN 1 LINZ 1; VORWARTS 1 STURM GRAZ 3; ADMIRA WACKER 1 AUSTRIA WIEN 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

SALZBURG 4 VORWARTS STEYR 0; AUSTRIA WIEN 3 GRAZER AK 2; LINZER 2 ADMIRA WACKER 0; SV RIED 2 FC TIROL 1; STURM GRAZ 0 RAPID WIEN 1

WEEKEND

GRAZER AK 1 ADMIRA WACKER 1; LINZER 2 STURM GRAZ 1; RAPID WIEN 3 SALZBURG 1; FC TIROL 3 AUSTRIA WIEN 1; VORWARTS STEYR 0 SV RIED 2

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

MIDWEEK

SALZBURG 4 VORWARTS 0; LINZ ASK 2 ADMIRA WACKER 0; RIED 2 FC TIROL 1; AUSTRIA WIEN 3 GRAZER AK 2; STURM GRAZ 0 RAPID WIEN 1.

WEEKEND

GRAZER AK 1 ADMIRA 1; FC TIROL 3 AUSTRIA WIEN 1; LINZ ASK 2 STURM GRAZ 1; RAPID 3 SALZBURG 1;VORWARTS 0 RIED 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rapid Vienna	10	7	2	1	18	7	23
Sturm Graz	10	6	0	4	22	13	18
GAK	10	5	2	3	19	13	17
LASK	10	4	4	2	11	9	16
SV Ried	10	4	3	3	17	16	15
Casino Salzburg	10	4	3	3	14	14	15
Austria Vienna	10	4	2	4	13	10	14
FC Tirol	10	4	1	5	16	15	13
Admira Wacker	10	2	3	5	9	19	9
Vorwarts	10	0	0	10	4	27	0

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

WEEKEND

STANDARD 1 (Foguenne 55)
RWDM 1 (Sabbadini 67) Att: 14,000

LOMMEL 1 (Lannaerts 54)
CHARLEROI 1 (MisSe-MisSe 1) Att: 6,500

CERCLE BRUGES 2 (Deloporte 37, Lawers 83)
LIERSE 3 (De Sousa 15, 52, Brocken 49) Att: 2,500

ANTWERP v EKEREN – ***postponed***

HARELBEKE 3 (Ngonge 7, 40, Frunza 53), **ST TRUIDEN 0** Att: 3,500

BEVEREN 1 (Udovic 90),
SERAING 0 Att: 4,000

ANDERLECHT 2 (Breko 69, 84)
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Stanic 86) Att: 24,000

MECHELEN 3 (Peeters 37, Molby 44, Minko 85)
WAREGEM 0 Att: 6,000

GENT 3 (De Meyer 47, Calo 55, V.D. Hoorn 63)
AALST 1 (Ramcic 6 og) Att: 10,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

CHARLEROI 3 (Misse-Misse 25, Brogno 37, Remy 67)
GENT 3 (Herreman 13, Martens 19, Calo 46) Att: 8,500

EENDRACHT AALST 1 (Van Ankeren 79)
STANDARD 1 (Thijs 90) Att: 10,000

MECHELEN 1 (Martens 51)
ANDERLECHT 3 (Crasson 35, Bosman 58, Zetterberg 87) Att: 11,200

RWDM 2 (Selymes 6, Claeys 60)
CERCLE BRUGES 2 (Pierre 75, 89) Att: 2,700

SERAING 0
HARELBEKE 1 (Frunza pen 87) Att: 3,000

ST TRUIDEN 2 (Balog 15, Van Houdt 36),
ANTWERP 3 (Severeyns 13, 58, 64) Att: 7,000

WAREGEM 1 (Urban 15),
LIERSE 3 (De Sousa 45, 67, Huysmans 74) Att: 4,000

CLUB BRUGGE 3 (Stanic 1, 23, Vermant 28)
BEVEREN 1 (Goots 89) Att: 11,000

EKEREN 1 (Hofmans 52)
LOMMEL 2 (Janssen 28, Scavone 67) Att: 2,500

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

STANDARD 2 (Bettagno 50, Schepens 72),
CHARLEROI 2 (Casto 32, Misse-Misse 53) Att: 12,000

LOMMEL 2 (Van Veldhoven 90, Janssen 42),
ST TRUIDEN 3 (Van Marsenillie 4, Nielsen 14, Van Houdt 86) Att: 7,500

CERCLE BRUGES 1 (Claeys 37)
AALST 1 (Paas 87) Att: 3,000

ANTWERP 4 (Owolabi 60, Severeyns 65, 85, Teppers 5 og)
SERAING 2 (Lawaere 4, Edmilson 25) Att: 6,000

LIERSE 1 (De Sousa 64)
RWDM 1 (Huysmans 54 og) Att: 5,000

HARELBEKE 0
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Stanic 4, Spehar 49) Att: 9,000

BEVEREN 1 (Smid 67)
MECHELEN 1 (Gijsbrechts 22) Att: 6,500

ANDERLECHT 2 (De Gilde 54, 79),
WAREGEM 0 Att: 15,000

GENT 0
EKEREN 2 (Schaessens 11, V. Walle 76) Att: 9,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

ANDERLECHT 1 (De Bilde 74)
BEVEREN 0 Att: 18,000

CHARLEROI 1 (Gerard 56)
CERCLE 1 (Koolman 40) Att: 6,000

CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Claessens 74, Stanic 75)
ANTWERP 0 Att: 12,000.

EENDRACHT AALST 1 (Paas 60)
LIERSE 2 (Snoeckx 28, Peeters 46) Att: 8,000

EKEREN 2 (Radzinski 14, 70)
STANDARD 0 Att: 7,000

MECHELEN 1 (Martens 41)
HARELBEKE 0 Att: 5,750

SERAING 2 (N'Gombo 61, Edmilson pen 79)
LOMMEL 1 (Hendrickx 84) Att: 1,200

ST TRUIDEN 1 (Vanmarsenille 80)
GENT 0. Att: 7,000

WAREGEM 0
RWDM 1 (Wuyts pen 5) Att: 3,000

WEEKEND

GENT 4 (De Vreese 1, Dauwen 6, Calo 43, Martens 68)
SERAING 2 (Lawaree 48, Edmilson 55) Att: 5,000

ANTWERP 1 (Kiekens pen 41)
MECHELEN 2 (Vreven 45, 85 Martens) Att: 7,000

BEVEREN 5 (Udovic 6, 63, Meeusen 65, Goots 75, Van Overtveld 82)
WAREGEM 1 (Buyse 73) Att: 3,500

CERCLE 2 (Shehu 48, Halmai og 55)
EKEREN 2 (Radzinski 9, Vande Walle 90) Att: 3,200

LIERSE 2 (Rekdal 42, De Sousa 72)
CHARLEROI 1 (Remy 38) Att: 5,000

LOMMEL 2 (Van Geneugden 65 83)
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Van der Elst 11, Vermant 22) Att: 11,000

RWDM 0
EENDRACH AALST 0 Att: 9,000

STANDARD 1 (Tykva 5)
ST TRUIDEN 1 (Abeels 55) Att: 13,000

HARELBEKE 0
ANDERLECHT 4 (Versavel 13, Preko 52, De Bilde pen 57, Boffin 89) Att: 9,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

ST TRUIDEN 1 (Nilssens 69)
CERCLE 1 (Lauwers 84) Att: 4,700

SERAING 0
STANDARD 0. Att: 9,000

BEVEREN 0
HARELBEKE 0. Att: 3,500

ANDERLECHT 1 (Weber 87)
ANTWERP 1 (Porte 24) Att: 22,000

CHARLEROI 2 (Van Meir 14, Remy 30)
RWDM 2 (Wuyts 46, Pierre 52) Att: 9,000

MECHELEN 2 (Czerniatynski 35, 50)
LOMMEL 0 Att: 7,000

EKEREN 1 (Hofmans 75)
LIERSE 1 (Huysmans 61) Att: 5,000

CLUB BRUGGE 3 (Stanic 11, Spehar 69, Lembi 81)
GENT 0 Att: 12,000

WAREGEM 0
EENDRACHT AALST 0 Att: 7,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Club Brugge	11	8	2	1	27	8	26
Lierse	11	6	3	2	18	12	21
Anderlecht	10	6	1	3	19	10	19
Aalst	11	5	4	2	16	9	19
Standard Liege	11	4	6	1	18	9	18
Molenbeek	11	4	6	1	12	10	18
Harelbeke	11	5	2	4	14	12	17
Charleroi	11	4	5	2	21	18	17
Mechelen	11	4	3	4	16	22	15
Beveren	11	4	2	5	14	14	14
Cercle Bruges	11	2	7	2	14	17	13
St Truiden	11	3	3	5	14	21	12
Antwerp	10	3	2	5	14	16	11
Seraing	11	3	2	6	14	20	11
Ekeren	9	2	4	3	13	12	10
Gent	11	2	3	6	14	21	9
Waregem	11	1	3	7	8	24	6
Lommel	11	1	2	8	10	21	5

ENGLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

MIDWEEK

NEWCASTLE 1 (Ferdinand 67)
MIDDLESBROUGH 0 Att: 36,500

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Widdrington 81)
LEEDS 1 (Dorigo 70) Att: 15,212

LIVERPOOL 1 (Ruddock 29)
QPR 0 Att: 37,548

BLACKBURN 1 (Shearer 58)
MAN UTD 2 (Sharpe 46, Beckham 57) Att: 29,843

ASTON VILLA 1 (Yorke 75)
BOLTON 0 Att: 31,770

WIMBLEDON 2 (Goodman 17, Holdsworth 84 pen)
SHEFF WED 2 (Degryse 10, Hirst 46) Att: 6,352

MAN CITY 0
EVERTON 2 (Parkinson 58, Amokachi 76) Att: 28,432

ARSENAL 1 (Platt 41)
NOTTM F 1 (Campbell 63) Att: 38,248

CHELSEA 2 (Wise 6 pen, M. Hughes 10)
COVENTRY 2 (Isaias 45, P. Ndlovu 54) Att:24,398

WEST HAM 1 (Hutchinson 24)
TOTTENHAM 1 (Rosenthal 55) Att: 23,516

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

BLACKBURN 1 (Shearer 52)
ASTON VILLA 1 (Milosevic 33) Att: 27,084

BOLTON 1 (McGinlay 24)
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Hignett 77) Att: 18,376

COVENTRY 1 (Dublin 11)
NOTTM FOREST 1 (Roy 23) Att: 17,219

EVERTON 2 (Limpar 28, Rideout 55)
MAN UTD 3 (Sharpe 3, 49, Giggs 74) Att: 39,496

QPR 0
SHEFFIELD WED 3 (Bright 55, 60, Donaldson 77) Att: 12,459

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Magilton 65)
NEWCASTLE 0 Att: 15,237

TOTTENHAM 2 (Howells 28, Yeboah 53)
LEEDS 1 (Sheringham 67) Att: 30.034

WIMBLEDON 1 (Babb og 30)
LIVERPOOL 0 Att: 19,530

MAN CITY 0
ARSENAL 1 (Wright 90) Att: 23,994

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

MIDWEEK

WEST HAM 1 (Hutchison 73)
CHELSEA 3 (Wise 32, Spencer 35,90) Att: 19,228

MIDDLESBROUGH 0
SOUTHAMPTON 0 Att: 29,181

WEEKEND

NEWCASTLE 3 (Beardsley 17 pen, Lee 38, Ferdinand 59)
MAN CITY 1 (Creaney 81) Att: 36,501

MAN UTD 3 (Scholes 19,80, Giggs 34)
BOLTON 0. Att: 32,812

ASTON VILLA 2 (Draper 7, Taylor 47)
WIMBLEDON 0. Att: 26,928

LIVERPOOL 3 (Redknapp 12, Fowler 12, Collymore 29)
BLACKBURN 0. Att: 39,502

ARSENAL 1 (Wright 75 pen)
WEST HAM 0. Att: 38,065

NOTTM F 3 (Watson 17 og, Lee 20, Woan 65)
EVERTON 2 (Rideout 62, 82) Att: 24,789

LEEDS 1 (Wetherhall 89)
QPR 3 (Dichio 16, 63, Sinclair 39) Att: 31,504

CHELSEA 3 (Sinclair 74, Gullit 89, Hughes 89)
SOUTHAMPTON 0. Att: 26,237

MIDDLESBROUGH 2 (Vickers 57, Fjortoft 78)
COVENTRY 1 (Isaias 47) Att: 27,882

SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Hirst 8)
TOTTENHAM 3 (Sheringham 32, 65pen, Walker 60 og) Att: 26,565

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

COCA-COLA CUP – 2ND RND, 1ST LEG

ASTON VILLA 6 PETERBOROUGH 0; BOLTON 1 BRENTFORD 0; BRADFORD CITY 3 NOTTM FOREST 2; BRISTOL CITY 0 NEWCASTLE 5; BRISTOL ROVERS 0 WEST HAM 1; CARDIFF CITY 0 SOUTHAMPTON 3; COVENTRY 2 HULL CITY 0; CREWE ALEXANDRA 2 SHEFF WEDNESDAY 2; HARTLEPOOL UTD 0 ARSENAL 3; LEEDS 0 NOTTS CO 0; LIVERPOOL 2 SUNDERLAND 0; MAN UTD 0 YORK CITY 3; MIDDLESBROUGH 2 ROTHERHAM 1; MILLWALL 0 EVERTON 0; OXFORD UTD 1 QPR 1; STOCKPORT CO 1 IPSWICH 1; STOKE CITY CHELSEA 0; SWINDON T 2 BLACKBURN 3; TOTTENHAM 4 CHESTER CITY 0; WIMBLEDON 4 CHARLTON ATH 5; WYCOMBE 0 MAN CITY 0

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 4 (Bergkamp 17, 68, Adams 23, Wright 73)
SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Watson 24, Monkou 45) Att: 38,136

ASTON VILLA 1 (Townsend 68)
NOTTM FOREST 1 (Lyttle 89) Att: 33,972

BLACKBURN 5 (Shearer 8, 60, 67, Hendry 23, Pearce 75)
COVENTRY 1 (Ndlovu 34) Att: 24,382

LIVERPOOL 5 (Fowler 11, 30, 47, 67, Todd 77)
BOLTON 2 (Todd 77, Patterson pen 81) Att: 40,104

MAN CITY 0
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Barmby 16) Att: 25,865

SHEFF WED 0
MAN UTD 0 Att: 34,101

WEST HAM 2 (Dicks pen 7, 43 pen)
EVERTON 1 (Samways 40) Att: 21,085

WIMBLEDON 2 (Holdsworth 43, Reeves 58)
LEEDS 4 (Palmer 32, Yeboah 42, 45, 73) Att: 13,307

NEWCASTLE 2 (Ferdinand 42, 58)
CHELSEA 0 Att: 36,225

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

MIDWEEK

QPR 2 (Dichio 36, Impey 46)
TOTTENHAM 3 (Sheringham 48 pen, 75, Dozzell 73) Att: 15,659

WEEKEND

EVERTON 1 (Limpar 81)
NEWCASTLE 3 (Ferdinand 11, Lee 59 pen, Kitson 63 og) Att: 32,999

COVENTRY 0
ASTON VILLA 3 (Yorke 1, Milosevic 84, 87) Att: 20,987.

MAN UTD 2 (Butt 2, Cantona 71 pen)
LIVERPOOL 2 (Fowler 33, 53) Att: 35,000

LEEDS 2 (Yeboah 34, Speed 58)
SHEFFIELD WED 0 Att: 34,076

CHELSEA 1 (Hughes 52)
ARSENAL 0 Att: 31,048

MIDDLESBROUGH 2 (Barmby 45, Hignett 77)
BLACKBURN 0.Att: 29,462

NOTTM FOREST 3 (Lee 10, 46, Stone 82)
MAN CITY 0 Att: 25,620

TOTTENHAM 3 (Sheringham 8, 33, Elkins 63 og)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Earle 40) Att: 25,321

BOLTON 0
QPR 1 (Dichio 89) Att: 17,362

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	8	7	0	1	17	4	21
Aston Villa	8	5	2	1	12	5	17
Man United	8	5	2	1	16	10	17
Liverpool	8	5	1	2	15	7	16
Leeds	8	5	1	2	14	9	16
Arsenal	8	4	3	1	10	5	15
Middlesbrough	8	4	3	1	9	4	15
Nottm Forest	8	3	5	0	14	9	14
Tottenham	8	4	2	2	14	11	14
Chelsea	8	3	3	2	9	7	12
Wimbledon	8	3	1	4	13	16	10
QPR	8	3	0	5	7	12	9
Sheffield Wed	8	2	2	4	8	11	8
Blackburn	8	2	1	5	10	13	7
Everton	8	2	1	5	10	13	7
Coventry	8	1	3	4	7	17	6
West Ham	7	1	2	4	7	11	5
Southampton	7	1	2	4	7	14	5
Bolton	8	1	1	6	8	18	4
Man City	8	0	1	7	3	14	1

FRANCE

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

MIDWEEK

BORDEAUX 3 (Zidane 32, 89, Dugarry 37)
NANTES 0. Att: 20,000

LYON 1 (Maurice 13)
STRASBOURG 1 (Mostovoi 41) Att: 21,976

WEEKEND

CANNES 0
PARIS SG 2 (Dely Valdes 61, Rai 85)
Att: 10,000

LYON 1 (Maurice 14)
METZ 1 (Pouget 47) Att: 20,000

GUINGAMP 1 (Carnot 24)
BASTIA 0 Att: 10,583

MONACO 2 (T. Henry 77, Anderson 82)
LILLE 1 (Dunckr 81) Att: 3,000

STRASBOURG 2 (Baticle 72, Keller 90)
MARTIGUES 0. Att: 14,923

LENS 1 (Vairelles 90)
RENNES 0. Att: 21,736

NANTES 2 (N'Doram 9 pen, Kosecki 58)
ST ETIENNE 2 (Moravcik 56, Decroix 70 og)
Att: 26,388

LE HAVRE 0
AUXERRE 4 (C. Martins 2, Saib 63, Laslandes 65, Cocard 79) Att: 10,155

MONTPELLIER 0
NICE 1 (Gnako 13) Att: 11,554

GUEUGNON 2 (Trivino 39, C. Garcia 42)
BORDEAUX 2 (Witschge 33, 79) Att: 8,770

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

AUXERRE 1 (Tasfaout 90)
STRASBOURG 0. Att: 10,000

BASTIA 4 (Rodriguez 20, Drobnjak 44, 54, Loret 77)
NANTES 1 (N'Doram pen 29) Att: 6,600

BORDEAUX 2 (Fischer 29, Dugarry 63)
CANNES 1 (Micoud 72) Att: 12,283

GUINGAMP 0
MONTPELLIER 0. Att: 9,809

LILLE 1 (Friis-Hansen pen 16)
LENS 3 (Vairelles 19, 90, Meyrieu 23) Att: 13,145

MARTIGUES 1 (Sylia 69)
LYON 2 (Maurice 2, 41) Att: 3,000

NICE 1 (Debbah 2)
LE HAVRE 2 (Samson 82, Bertin 89) Att: 6,000

PARIS SG 2 (Dely Valdes 23, Fournier 38)
MONACO 1 (da Silva 27) Att: 39,317

ST ETIENNE 2 (Moravcik pen 54, Thimothee 59)
GUEUGNON 0. Att: 20,028

METZ 0
RENNES 0. Att: 10,318

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

MONTPELLIER 1 (N'gotty 19 og)
PARIS SG 0. Att: 13,352

MONACO 0
METZ 1 (Pires 29) Att: 2,500

LENS 3 (Sikora 39pen, Boli 71, Meyrieu 79)
BASTIA 1 (Drobnjak 55 pen) Att: 22,545

LYON 0
AUXERRE 1 (Diomede 5) Att: 23,211

NANTES 0
GUINGAMP 0. Att: 26,030

STRASBOURG 1 (Baticle 62)
NICE 1 (Cheouch 23) Att: 13,940

LE HAVRE 1 (Daury 69)
BORDEAUX 0. Att: 10,961

CANNES 2 (Kozniku 25, 78)
ST ETIENNE 0. Att: 4,000

RENNES 1 (Grassi 15)
MARTIGUES 3 (Romano 16, F. Soler 37, Mazzonolini 64) Att: 7,669

GUEGNON 3 (Trivino 2, Traore 55, Brunel 61)
LILLE 1 (Sibierski 45) Att: 5,542

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

WEEKEND

AUXERRE 2 (Laslandes 53, Tasfaout 90)
RENNES 1 (Darcheville 5) Att: 5,000

BASTIA 2 (Lambourde og 9, Swierczewski 32)
CANNES 1 (Horlaville 75) Att: 6,000

BORDEAUX 3 (Bancarel 14, 16, Lizarazu 58)
MONTPELLIER 0 Att: 10,000

GUINGAMP 0
GUEUGNON 0 Att: 8,692

LILLE 2 (Sibierski 6, Becanovic 90)
LE HAVRE 0 Att: 5,643

MARTIGUES 0
METZ 1 (Blanchard 18) Att: 4,200

NANTES 1 (N'Doram 30)
LENS 1 (N'Doram 30) Att: 17,613

NICE 1 (Ipoua 69)
LYON 0 Att: 5,804

PARIS SG 2 (Dely Valdes 17, 64)
STRASBOURG 0 Att: 33,093

ST ETIENNE 2 (Thimothee 39, 76)
MONACO 4 (Benarbia pen 44, Madar 65, 66, Viaud 70) Att: 14,238

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

METZ 3 (Kastendeuch 12, West 79 og, Adam 84)
AUXERRE 1 (C.Martins 72) Att: 23,509

LENS 3 (Wallemme 8, Camara 50, Vairelles 83)
PARIS SG 1 (Nouma 77) Att: 33,215

MONACO 1 (Madar 17)
GUINGAMP 0 Att: 2,500

STRASBOURG 3 (Leboeuf 9 pen, Mostovoi 65, Keller 89)
BORDEAUX 0 Att:11,654

CANNES 1 (Kozniku 7)
NICE 3 (Gnako 48, Ipoua 68, 80).Att: 7,000

RENNES 2 (Witford 12, Lambert 45)
BASTIA 0.Att: 6,702

GUEUGNON 0
NANTES 1 (Pedros 81) Att: 11,857

MONTPELLIER 0
LILLE 0 Att: 8,232

LE HAVRE 1 (Bertin 41)
MARTIGUES 0 Att: 7,879

LYON 2 (Assadourian 10, Maurice 13)
ST ETIENNE 1 (Sandjak 71) Att: 37,903.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Metz	12	8	4	0	14	5	28
Lens	12	7	4	1	17	9	25
Paris SG	12	7	3	2	22	10	24
Auxerre	12	7	1	4	23	12	22
Monaco	12	6	2	4	22	17	20
Guingamp	12	5	5	2	10	6	20
Bastia	12	6	1	5	17	15	19
Montpellier	12	5	3	4	14	12	18
Bordeaux	12	5	2	5	16	15	17
Nantes	12	4	5	3	14	14	17
Strasbourg	12	4	4	4	17	13	16
Nice	12	4	4	4	13	11	16
Rennes	12	4	2	6	13	18	14
Lyon	12	3	4	5	13	17	13
Le Havre	12	4	1	7	6	17	13
St Etienne	12	3	3	6	16	20	12
Gueugnon	12	2	4	6	9	18	10
Martigues	12	3	1	8	8	17	10
Lille	12	2	3	7	9	17	9
Cannes	12	3	0	9	14	24	9

GERMANY

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

MIDWEEK

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Papin 28, Helmer 68)
UERDINGEN 0. Att: 45,000

BORUSSIA MG 0
LEVERKUSEN 0 Att: 31,600

KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Kuka 24, 37)
ST PAULI 1 (Savitchev 58) Att: 20,345

HANSA ROSTOCK 3 (Beinlich 45, Chalaskiewicz 83, Groth 89)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Sosa 15, 27) Att: 25,850

ENTRACHT 4 (Binz 48, Okocha 51, Bohme 63, Bindewald 88)
1860 MUNICH 2 (Borimirov 54, Lesniak 60) Att: 20,700

STUTTGART 3 (Elber 11, 72, Balakov 21)
FREIBURG 1 (Sundermann 28) Att: 48,000

WERDER BREMEN 1 (Bode 57)
KARLSRUHE 0. Att: 23,100

KOLN 3 (Polster 33, 69, Labbadia 50)
HAMBURG 2 (A. Fisher 52, Albertz 62) Att: 21,000

SCHALKE 1 (Max 82)
FORTUNA 1 (Mill 9) Att: 29,276

WEEKEND

BAYERN 2 (Ziege 73, Nerlinger 85)
1860 MUNICH 0. Att: 71,800

LEVERKUSEN 1 (Kirsten 54)
ST PAULI 1 (Propper 53) Att: 19,000

FORTUNA 2 (Winkhold 64, Pancev 71)
HANSA ROSTOCK 2 (Baumgart 9, Lange 71) Att: 13,000

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Retuer 53, Ricken 82)
BORUSSIA MG 1 (Dahlin 17) Att: 42,800

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Brehme 43 pen)
STUTTGART 1 (Bobic 84) Att: 32,500

UERDINGEN 3 (Meijer 26, Peschke 54, Wedau 74)
WERDER BREMEN 0. Att: 11,672

FREIBURG 2 (Todt 10, Spies 89)
EINTRACHT 0. Att: 23,000

HAMBURG 1 (Ordenewitz 60)
SCHALKE 1 (Max 22) Att: 20,377

KARLSRUHE 1 (Hassler 82)
KOLN 0. Att: 22,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

KOLN 0
UERDINGEN 0. Att: 16,000

WERDER BREMEN 2 (Basler pen 71, Vier 84)
1860 MUNICH 0. Att: 25,590

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Klinsmann 11, 90)
FREIBURG 0. Att: 63,000

EINTRACHT 3 (Hagner 45, Kadlec og 70, Okocha pen 79)
KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Hengen 73) Att: 25,300

FORTUNA 2 (Seeliger 13, Cyron 66)
HAMBURG 2 (Fischer 6, Albertz 77) Att: 16,500

HANSA ROSTOCK 2 (Baumgart 37, Breitkreutz 41)
BORUSSIA MG 3 (Pflipsen 18, Dahlin 27, 72) Att: 25,600

ST PAULI 0
DORTMUND 3 (Herrlich 50, Zorc 57, Herrlich 87) Att: 20,725

SCHALKE 2 (Mulder 3, Ksienzyk 70)
KARLSRUHE 1 (Hassler 59) Att: 21,000

STUTTGART 1 (Kurse 47)
LEVERKUSEN 4 (Voller 55, Kirsten 75, 85, Ramon 88) Att: 23,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Brehme 21 pen, Hengen 56)
BAYERN MUNICH 3 (Babbel 13, 87, Storza 45) Att: 38,900

LEVERKUSEN 2 (Voller 14, Fach 71)
EINTRACHT 0. Att: 18,200

DORTMUND 6 (Cesar 4, Sammer 10, Herrlich 25, Moller 33, 67, Reuter 48 pen)
STUTTGART 3 (Elber 3, Gilcewicz 53, Balakov 74) Att: 42,800

WERDER BREMEN 1 (Basler 56)
FREIBURG 0. Att: 22,500

BORUSSIA MG 2 (Sternkopf 48, Dahlin 73)
ST PAULI 4 (Savitchev 25, 45, Scharping 38, Becker 70) Att: 34,200

KFC UERDINGEN 1 (Meijer 87)
SCHALKE 1 (Anderbrugge 26) Att: 22,000

HAMBURG 1 (Albertz 12)
HANSA ROSTOCK 1 (Baumgart 18)
Att: 26,706

KARLSRUHE 3 (Bender 3, 70, Schmitt 90)
FORTUNA 1 (Brazic 26) Att: 22,000

MUNICH 1860 2 (Winkler 5, Nowak 75)
KOLN 1 (Baumann 7) Att: 35,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

GERMAN CUP – 2ND RND

BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 BORUSSIA MG 0; BECKUM 2 UNTERHACHING 3; BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 KFC UERDINGEN 0; CZ JENA 2 CHEMNITZ 5; FREIBURG 1 ARMINIA BIELEFELD 0; FORTUNA 3 BAYERN MUNICH 1; MAINZ 05 2 WERDER BREMEN 3; GREIFSWALD 1 RW ESSEN 4; KAISERSLAUTERN 3 WATTENSCHEID 0; ALTMARK 3 HERTHA BSC 2; NURNBERG 1 SV MEPPEN 1; SACHSEN LEIPZIG 0 KARLSRUHE 2; SANDHAUSEN 1 HOMBURG 2; WALDHOF MANNHEIM 2 ZWICKAU 0; 1860 MUNICH 5 EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 1; VFB LEIPZIG 0 SCHALKE 1.

WEEKEND

EINTRACHT 3 (Schupp 13, Ekstrom 35, Rauffmann 43)
DORTMUND 4 (Moller 27, Zorc 37, Herrlich 46, Ricken 82) Att: 45,000

FORTUNA DUSSELDORF 1 (Seeliger 86)
KFC UERDINGEN 0 Att: 15,000

BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Klinsmann pen 90)
LEVERKUSEN 0 Att: 63,000

HAMBURG 0
KARLSRUHE 0 Att: 14,816

HANSA ROSTOCK 2 (Beinlich 11, Baumgart 69)
ST PAULI 0 Att: 25,800

KOLN 1 (Polster pen 75)
FREIBURG 1 (Wassmer 40) Att: 21,000

STUTTGART 5 (Bobic 19, 60, Elber 30, 67, Balakov 51)
BORUSSIA MG 0 Att: 38,000

WERDER BREMEN 1 (Basler 6)
KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Hollerbach 85)
Att:26,863

SCHALKE 1 (Mulder 3)
1860 MUNICH 1 (Trares 85) Att: 32,600

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

DORTMUND 3 (Reuter 41 pen, Sosa 79, Zorc 82)

BAYERN 1 (Nerlinger 49) Att: 42,800

KARLSRUHE 0
HANSA ROSTOCK 2 (Baumgart 72, Beinlich 78).Att: 19,000

LEVERKUSEN 2 (Sergio 18, Voller 71)
WERDER 2 (Basler 38, Neubath 72)
Att: 24,000

FREIBURG 1 (Spies 68)
SCHALKE 2 (Mulder 51, Latal 76) Att: 22,500

ST PAULI 1 (Driller 3)
STUTTGART 3 (Elber 17, Bobic 39, Gilcewicz 74) Att: 20,402

BORUSSIA MG 4 (Effenberg 21, 60, Andersson 36, Dahlin 74)
EINTRACHT 1 (Kopke 53) Att: 27,000

KFC UERDINGEN 1 (Laessig 81)
HAMBURG 1 (Henchoz 25) Att: 11,000

1860 MUNICH 2 (Winkler 36pen, Bodden 75)
FORTUNA 1 (Drazic 10) Att: 43,000

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Hengen 11)
KOLN 1 (Polster 34) Att: 36,646.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	8	7	0	1	20	9	21
Bor. Dortmund	8	5	2	1	22	13	17
Hansa Rostock	8	4	2	2	16	11	14
Bayer Leverkusen	8	3	4	1	12	7	13
Werder Bremen	8	3	4	1	11	10	13
Schalke	8	3	4	1	10	9	13
Borussia MG	8	4	1	3	14	15	13
VfB Stuttgart	8	3	3	2	17	14	12
St Pauli	8	3	1	4	13	15	10
Uerdingen	8	1	5	2	6	6	8
Fortuna	8	1	5	2	10	12	8
Eintracht Frankfurt	8	2	2	4	14	18	8
Karlsruhe	8	2	2	4	9	14	8
1860 Munich	8	2	2	4	10	16	8
Koln	8	1	4	3	7	9	7
Kaiserslautern	8	1	4	3	10	14	7
Hamburg	8	0	6	2	12	14	6
Freiburg	8	1	1	6	5	12	4

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

WEEKEND

SPARTA 4 (Dennis De Nouijes 3, 33, Van der Laan 29, Jalint 33)
DE GRAAFSCHAP 1 (Victoria 73)

GA EAGLES 0
WILLEM II 2 (Van der Vegt 2, Van Gastel 15)

GRONINGEN 2 (Bombarda 30, 48)
FORTUNA SITTARD 0

HEERENVEEN 2 (Tammer 7pen, Tomasson 83)
RKC 1 (Van Aerde 49)

NAC 3 (Abdellaoui 20, Roerie 69 pen),
PSV 0

VITESSE 0
RODA JC 0

TWENTE 2 (Bruggink 15, Boerebach 67 pen),
FEYENOORD 2 (Van Bronckhorst 21, Vidmar 73)

UTRECHT 2 (Hernandez 68, Graanoogst 87)
VOLENDAM 2 (Smeets 31, Vierrlau 38 og)

NEC 0
AJAX 6 (Finidi 7, 55, Davids 31, Overmars 33, 72, Reuser 50)

HEERENVEEN 1 (Straal 89)
GRONINGEN 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

RKC 0
VITESSE 2 (Van Wanrooy 76) Att: 2,600

NEC 2 (Van diemen 56, Kooistra 68)
UTRECHT 0 Att: 4,000

PSV 5 (Ronaldo 25, 70, Pahlplatz 44, Eijkelkamp 82, Nilis 89),
HEERENVEEN 1 (Tammer 78) Att: 27,500

RODA JC 0
TWENTE 0. Att: 8,500

WILLEM II 4 (Van Gastel 42, 57, Lammers 76, Stam 82),
FORTUNA SITTARD 0. Att: 7,700

AJAX 4 (Kanu 6, 23, Overmars 40, Reuser 89)
SPARTA 0. Att: 19,023

FEYENOORD 5 (Kromheer og 15, Koeman 34, Van Bronckhorst 45, Trustfull 62, Vidmar 65)
VOLENDAM 1 (Kromheer 2) Att: 30,160

DE GRAAFSCHAP 3 (Breetveld 9, 87, 89)
GA EAGLES 2 (Heering 81, 82) Att: 6,600

GRONINGEN v NAC – ***postponed***

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

MIDWEEK

GRONINGEN 3 (Sion 13, Bombardca 28, Huizingh 55)
NAC 1 (Arnold 33) Att: 11,102

WEEKEND

UTRECHT 1 (Visser 38),
FEYENOORD 0 Att: 13,000

EIGHT OUT OF EIGHT FOR AJAX, AND STILL NO GOA

VITESSE 0
PSV EINDHOVEN 1 (Pahlpatz 38) Att: 8,350

FORTUNA 1 (Burchel 76)
DE GRAAFSCHAP 0 Att: 6,000

TWENTE 0
RKC 1 (Petrovic 48 pen) Att: 5,700

GA EAGLES 0
AJAX 4 (Marbus 57 og, Kanu 65, 76 pen, Davids 81) Att: 10,000

VOLENDAM 1 (Sarnaurdzic 30),
RODA 0 Att:3,000

SPARTA 3 (Koning 2 og, Fortes 55, de Nooijer 70)
NEC 1 (Sumiala 83) Att: 2,900

NAC 0
WILLEM II 1 (Van der Vegt 89) Att: 10,614

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

WEEKEND

FORTUNA SITTARD 1 (Hamming 62)
NEC 1 (Koning 17) Att: 5,500

GA EAGLES 1 (Decheiver 80)
SPARTA 3 (Fortes 71, De Nooijer 73, 87) Att: 6,000

HEERENVEEN 2 (Hansma 63, Tammer 70)
DE GRAAFSCHAP 2 (Van de Brink 27, Breetveld 52) Att: 13,200

UTRECHT 0
RODA JC 1 (Roelofsen 19) Att: 7,500

VOLENDAM 0
PSV 5 (Ronaldo 14, Numan 29, Pahlplatz 36, Cocu 47, Jonk 88) Att: 4,000

FEYENOORD 4 (Larsson 9, 52, Trustfull 66, Taument 90)
RKC 2 (Muller 56, Van Rijswijk 68) Att: 27,804

NAC 0
AJAX 1 (Kluivert 63) Att: 10,845

FC TWENTE 2 (Hoogma 57, Bruggink 64)
GRONINGEN 2 (Beerens 35, Sion 83) Att: 6,000

VITESSE 2 (Jochemsen 33, Laamers 74)
WILLEM II 2 (Van de Berg 4, Van Zundert 68) Att: 6,500

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

WILLEM II 5 (Hoogma 5 og, Van Gastel 11, De Gier 30, Lammers 32, 80)
TWENTE 2 (Ter Avest 44, Petrov 90) Att: 7,813

GRONINGEN 2 (Bombarda 58, Huizingh 85)
VOLENDAM 1 (Kromheer 52) Att: 10,500

SPARTA ROTTERDAM 0
FORTUNA 1 (Hamming 17) Att: 4,000

HEERENVEEN 0
AJAX 4 (Davids 12, Straal 57 og, Litmanen 67, Kluivert 73) Att: 13,600

NEC 1 (Limiala 16)
NAC 3 (Scheepers 15, 90, Lokhoff 27) Att: 3,000

RKC 2 (Petrovic 73, Wijnhard 80)
RODA JC 0 Att: 3,000

GA EAGLES 2 (Marbus 3, Decheiver 64)
UTRECHT 3 (Hofstede 2, Ten Hag 14, Graanoogst 75) Att: 6,500

DE GRAAFSCHAP 2 (Oosterhuis 36, Victoria 64)
VITESSE 3 (Van Wanrooy 7, Makaay 51, Curovic 80) Att: 7,700

PSV 3 (Ronaldo 50, Jonk 70, V.D. Werden 86)
FEYENOORD 0 Att: 27,500

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	8	8	0	0	30	0	24
PSV Eindhoven	8	6	1	1	21	6	19
Willem II Tilburg	8	5	3	0	21	5	18
Feyenoord	8	4	2	2	21	13	14
Groningen	8	4	2	2	14	11	14
RKC Waalwijk	8	4	1	3	11	10	13
Heerenveen	8	3	3	2	12	16	12
Sparta Rotterdam	8	3	2	3	10	14	11
NAC Breda	8	2	3	3	10	9	9
Twente Enschede	8	2	3	3	12	14	9
Roda JC	8	1	5	2	5	7	8
Vitesse Arnhem	8	2	2	4	9	15	8
Utrecht	8	2	2	4	6	12	8
Fortuna Sittard	8	2	2	4	6	16	8
NEC Nijmegen	8	2	1	5	9	20	7
De Graafschap	8	1	2	5	11	19	5
GA Eagles	8	1	2	5	11	19	5
Volendam	8	1	2	5	6	19	5

ITALY

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

CAGLIARI 0
LAZIO 1 (Signori 22) Att: 25,000

CREMONESE 0
SAMPDORIA 0. Att: 9,960

MILAN 2 (Sergio og 10, Baggio 84)
UDINESE 1 (Poggi 60) Att: 55,000

NAPOLI 2 (Pecchia 9, Agostini 69)
PADOVA 0. Att: 30,000

PARMA 2 (Zola 49, Baggio 52)
INTER 1 (Roberto Carlos 42) Att: 27,000

PIACENZA 0
JUVENTUS 4 (Vialli 45, 85, Torricelli 60, Ravanelli 73) Att: 25,000

AS ROMA 0
ATALANTA 1 (Vieri pen 51) Att: 50,000

TORINO 3 (Ricci og 21, Hakan 67, Rizzitelli pen 87)
BARI 1 (Protti 42) Att: 20,000

VICENZA 1 (Rossi 67)
FIORENTINA 0. Att: 16,925

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

JUVENTUS 1 (Vialli 21)
VICENZA 0. Att: 30,000

AS ROMA 1 (Balbo 15)
MILAN 2 (Weah 45, 76) Att: 60,000

BARI 3 (Protti 2, 14, 48)
LAZIO 3 (Winter 43, Casiraghi 57, Signori 59 pen) Att: 33,000

ATALANTA 1 (Vieri 2)
NAPOLI 3 (Buso 30, Imbriani 63, Agostini 74) Att: 20,000

FIORENTINA 3 (Baiano 1, 14, Amoruso 20)
CAGLIARI 1 (Amoruso 16 og) Att: 37,000

UDINESE 3 (Bierhoff 61, 69, Poggi 66)
CREMONESE 2 (Maspero 76 pen, Florijancic 80) Att: 16,000

SAMPDORIA 3 (Karembeu 21, 74, Bellucci 87)
PARMA 0. Att: 35,000

PADOVA 1 (Kreek 36)
TORINO 1 (Bernardini 14) Att: 14,000

INTER 0
PIACENZA 0. Att: 45,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

WEEKEND

MILAN 3 (Desailly 25, R. Baggio 87, Di Canio 90)
ATALANTA 0 Att: 60,000

CAGLIARI 0
JUVENTUS 0 Att: 25,000

NAPOLI 2 (Imbriani 32, Buso 65)
INTER 1 (Fontolan 46) Att: 50,000

LAZIO 2 (Signori 13 pen, Fuser 42)
UDINESE 2 (Helveg 72, Bierhoff 87) Att: 55,000

PARMA 3 (Stoichkov 35, Cripa 40, Benarrivo 65)
FIORENTINA 0 Att: 28,000

TORINO 1 (Rizzitelli 63)
SAMPDORIA 1 (Maniero 57) Att: 20,000

VICENZA 2 (Murgita 14, Otero 83)
PADOVA 1 (N. Amoruso 28) Att: 15,000

CREMONESE 0
AS ROMA 1 (A. Tentoni 68 og) Att: 10,000

PIACENZA 3 (Caccia 42, 48, Piovani 51)
BARI 2 (Protti 83, Pedone 90) Att: 13,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

BARI 1 (Gautieri 47)
MILAN 0 Att: 50,000

JUVENTUS 1 (Vialli 55)
NAPOLI 1 (Pecchia 51) Att: 40,000

PADOVA 1 (N. Amoruso 52 pen)
PARMA 3 (Stoichkov 14, 36, Zola 77) Att: 13,000

AS ROMA 0
LAZIO 0 Att: 75,000

FIORENTINA 3 (Padalino 40, Baiano 45, Batistuta 61)
CREMONESE 2 (Maspero 42, Fantini 90) Att: 35,000

UDINESE 1 (Bierhoff 26)
VICENZA 1 (Otero 78) Att: 20,000

INTER 4 (Roberto Carlos 10, Ganz 36 pen, 53 pen, Delvecchio 45)
TORINO 0 Att: 35,000

ATALANTA 2 (Piovani 7 og, Rossini 49 og)
PIACENZA 0 Att: 17,000

SAMPDORIA 1 (Maniero 31)
CAGLIARI 2 (Dario Silva 52, Oliveira 67) Att: 25,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	5	4	0	1	9	4	12
Juventus	5	3	2	0	10	2	11
Napoli	5	3	2	0	9	4	11
Parma	5	3	1	1	9	6	10
Lazio	5	2	3	0	10	6	9
Fiorentina	5	3	0	2	8	7	9
Udinese	5	2	2	1	8	7	8
Inter	5	2	1	2	7	4	7
Vicenza	5	2	1	2	4	4	7
Atalanta	5	2	1	2	5	7	7
Sampdoria	5	1	3	1	6	4	6
AS Roma	5	1	2	2	3	4	5
Bari	5	1	2	2	8	10	5
Torino	5	1	2	2	5	9	5
Cagliari	5	1	1	3	3	6	4
Piacenza	5	1	1	3	4	12	4
Padova	5	0	1	4	4	10	1
Cremonese	5	0	1	4	5	11	1

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

SPORTING BRAGA 1 (Karoglan 66)
SPORTING LISBON 3 (Ouattara 16, Karoglan 66, Vujacic 78)

BENFICA 1 (Hassan Nader 59)
GUIMARAES 1 (Ricardo 89)

BOAVISTA 3 (Timofte 32, 74, Bertolazzi 42)
GIL VICENTE 0

CAMPOMAIORENSE 2 (Silverio 20, 81)
BELENENSES 3 (M'Jid 43, Fernando Mendes 80, Mauro Soares 85)

FELGUEIRAS 1 (Lewis 58)
LECA 2 (Isaias 41, Chico 60)

MARITIMO 3 (Bunbury pen 2, 45, Pires 83),
SALGUEIROS 1 (Humberto og 89)

FC PORTO 2 (Mielcarski 30, Latapy 69),
CHAVES 0

FARENSE 1 (Hajry 7)
AMADORA 0.

LEIRIA 5 (Mauricio 22, Joao Manuel 43, Paulo Duarte 46, Reinaldo 49, Porfirio 63)
TIRSENSE 1 (Mangonga 86)

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

SALGUEIROS 0
FELGUEIRAS 0

TIRSENSE 2 (Luisao 10, Batista 50),
MARITIMO 1 (Alex 25)

GUIMARAES 3 (Gilmar 3, Zahovic 13, Edinho 76)
LEIRIA 0

AMADORA v BENFICA – ***postponed***

BELENENSES 2 (Mauro Soares 39, Cesar Brito 77)
FARENSE 1 (Cacloli 29)

SPORTING LISBON v CAMPOMAIORENSE - ***postponed***

LECA v FC PORTO – ***postponed***

GIL VICENTE 1 (Roberto Carlos 57)
SPORTING BRAGA 2 (Sergio 1, Karoglan 26)

CHAVES 2 (Rui Alberto 50, Daniddiaz 87),
BOAVISTA 3 (Artur 60 pen, Sanchez 83, Nuno Gomes 90)

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

LECA 0
FC PORTO 2 (Miecarski 53, Domingos 87)

SPORTING LISBON 7 (Amunike 33, 81, Oceano 43, 67, Pedro Barbosa 46, Sa Pinto 76, Paulo Alves 87)
CAMPOMAIORENSE 1 (Stoilov 8)

WEEKEND

BENFICA 1 (Marcelo Cipriano 84)
BELENENSES 0

BOAVISTA 2 (Artur 59, Nuno Gomes 87)
LECA 0

CAMPOMAIOR 2 (Hasselbaink 42, 80)
GIL VICENTE 0

FELGUEIRAS 1 (Lewis 68)
FC PORTO 1 (Latapy 25)

MARITIMO 4 (Fernando Pires 11, Gutavo 31, Quim Berto og 63, Bunbury 67)
GUIMARAES 0

SALGUEIROS 1 (Fernando Almeida 85)
TIRSENSE 1 (Moreira de Sa 75)

SPORTING BRAGA 1 (Chico Silva 11)
CHAVES 0

FARENSE 0
SPORTING LISBON 1 (Vujacic 62)

LEIRIA 2 (Gervino 20, Mauricio pen 87)
ESTRELA 1 (Jose Carlos 62)

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

TIRSENSE 0
FELGUEIRAS 0

GUIMARAES 1 (Victor Paneira 9)
SALGUEIROS 2 (Basillo 7, 64)

ESTRELA 1 (Voinov 51 pen)
MARITIMO 1 (Filgueira 53)

BELENENSES 3 (Fertout 60, Calila 61, Cesar Brito 65)
UNIAO LEIRIA 1 (Alvaro Gregorio 6)

LECA 0
SPORTING BRAGA 1 (Bruno 60)

GIL VICENTE 2 (R. Carlos 21, Vasco 26)
FARENSE 2 (Punisic 31, Djukic 63 pen)

CHAVES 4 (Tonino 2, Manuel Correia 22, Amarildo 36, Manu 51)
CAMPOMAIORENSE 1 (Beto 48)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boavista	5	4	1	0	9	2	13
FC Porto	5	4	1	0	8	2	13
Braga	6	4	1	1	8	6	13
Sporting	6	4	1	1	14	4	13
Benfica	6	3	2	1	4	3	11
Maritimo	6	3	1	2	13	6	10
Belenenses	6	3	1	2	9	7	10
Guimaraes	6	3	1	2	7	7	10
Salgueiros	6	2	3	1	8	5	9
Felgueiras	6	1	4	1	6	5	7
Farense	6	2	1	3	6	7	7
Uniao Leiria	6	2	0	4	8	16	6
Chaves	6	1	2	3	10	11	5
Tirsense	6	1	2	3	5	10	5
Amadora	6	1	1	4	5	7	4
Gil Vicente	6	1	1	4	5	10	4
Leca	6	1	1	4	4	10	4
Campomaiorense	6	1	0	5	6	17	3

SCOTLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 2 (Boyd og 7, Jess 10)
CELTIC 3 (Collins 21, 38, Thom 33) Att: 20,000

RANGERS 4 (McCoist 16, 87, Miller 23, Robertson 29)
RAITH 0 Att: 43,535

HEARTS 4 (Lawrence 13, Colquhoun 20, 51, Robertson pen 65)
FALKIRK 1 (McDonald 36) Att: 11,531

KILMARNOCK 0
HIBS 3 (Wright 24, 39, Evans 42) Att: 7,014

MOTHERWELL 1 (Walker og 87),
PARTICK 1 (McDonald 82) Att: 6,155

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

FALKIRK 0
RANGERS 2 (Salenko 32, Robertson 75) Att: 11,450

RAITH 2 (Graham 52, Dair 84),
KILMARNOCK 0 Att: 4,450

CELTIC 1 (O'Donnell 6)
MOTHERWELL 1 (Arnott 69) Att: 33,000

PARTICK 2 (McWilliams 12, Docherty 88)
HEARTS 0. Att: 6,500

HIBERNIAN 1 (Jackson 74)
ABERDEEN 1 (Shearer 72) Att: 11,200

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

COCA-COLA CUP – 6TH ROUND

CELTIC 0 RANGERS 1; MOTHERWELL 1 ABERDEEN 2 *(aet)*; AIRDRIE 1 PARTICK 1 *(aet; Airdrie won on pens)*; DUNDEE 4 HEARTS 4 *(aet, Dundee won on pens)*

WEEKEND

FALKIRK 0
MOTHERWELL 0 Att: 4,246

RANGERS 0
HIBERNIAN 1 (Jackson pen 63) Att: 44,364

HEARTS 0
CELTIC 4 (McLaughlin 6, 9, Walker 48, 72) Att: 13,696

KILMARNOCK 1 (Brown 48)
ABERDEEN 2 (Miller 30, Woodthorpe 42) Att: 7,198

RAITH 3 (Cameron 6, 63, Dair 37)
PARTICK 1 (McDonald 78) Att: 4,342

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 3 (Booth 6, 72, Miller 26)
RAITH ROVERS 0 Att: 10,000

MOTHERWELL 3 (Coyne 32, 69pen, May 52)
KILMARNOCK 0 Att: 34,500

PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Craig 50)
FALKIRK 1 (Johnston 57 pen) Att: 5,000

HIBERNIAN 2 (Donald 60, McGinlay 72)
HEARTS 2 (McPherson 40, Robertson 90) Att: 14,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	5	4	0	1	9	1	12
Aberdeen	5	3	1	1	11	7	10
Celtic	5	3	1	1	9	5	10
Hibernian	5	2	3	0	8	4	9
Motherwell	5	1	4	0	6	3	7
Partick	5	1	3	1	6	6	6
Raith	5	2	0	3	5	9	6
Hearts	5	1	2	2	7	10	5
Falkirk	5	0	2	3	4	10	2
Kilmarnock	5	0	0	5	1	11	0

SPAIN

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

WEEKEND

REAL MADRID 5 (Amavisca 29, Sandro 54, Hierro 61, 70, Quique 86)
VALLECANO 1 (Guilherme 77) Att: 18,000

ATHLETIC BILBAO 4 (Ciganda 16, 58, Etxeberria 34, Guerrero 61)
SANTANDER 0. Att: 40,000

ATLETICO MADRID 4 (Pantic 34, Penev 66, 74 pen, Simeone 76)
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Karpin 23) Att: 45,000

LA CORUNA 3 (Manjarin 30, Bebeto 37, 59)
VALENCIA 0. Att: 30,000

SPORTING GIJON 3 (Lediakhov 16, Julio Salinas 22, Tomas 52)
ALBACETE 0. Att: 18,500

ESPANYOL 3 (Raducioiu 13, 18, Urzaiz 76)
SALAMANCA 1 (Del Solar 26) Att: 30,000

BARCELONA 2 (Popescu 67, De la Pena 89)
REAL VALLADOLID 0. Att: 30,000

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Aguado 14)
REAL OVIEDO 0. Att: 28,000

SEVILLA 1 (Jimenez 88 og)
TENERIFE 0. Att: 43,000

CELTA 0
COMPOSTELA 1 (Bellido 75) Att: 28,000

MERIDA 1 (Quique Martin 31)
REAL BETIS 1 (Stosic 44) Att: 11,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

ALBACETE 3 (Kasumov 42, Bjelica 44, 59)
SEVILLA 2 (Moacir 4, Suker pen 90) Att: 15,000

BARCELONA 2 (Kodro 25, 90 pen)
MERIDA 2 (Reyes pen 2, Correa 64) Att: 70,000

REAL BETIS 3 (Alfonso 18, Pier 21, 57)
REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Morientes 48) Att: 40,000

REAL MADRID 1 (Raul 49)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Raul 49, Etxxeberria 79) Att: 75,000

COMPOSTELA 4 (Fabiano 20, 46, Jose Ramon 36, Ohen 50)
LA CORUNA 0. Att: 11,000

SANTANDER 0
ATLETICO MADRID 4 (Penev pen 46, 90, Caminero 49, Simeone 86) Att: 19,000

REAL OVIEDO 2 (Pedro Alberto 19, Oli 56)
RAYO VALLECANO 0. Att: 14,000

REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (Karpin 35, 88)
SPORTING GIJON 0. Att: 20,000

SALAMANCA 0
CELTA 1 (Milojevic 64) Att: 18,000

TENERIFE 1 (Victor 60)
ESPANYOL 4 (Arteaga 21, Raducioiu 22, Lardin 68, Benitez 81) Att: 17,000

VALENCIA 1 (Galvez 58)
REAL VALLADOLID 0. Att: 45,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

ATHLETIC BILBAO 0
ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Quico 16, Penev 65) Att: 34,000.

ESPANYOL 1 (Pochettino 88)
ALBACETE 0. Att: 20,000

REAL ZARAGOZA 0
BARCELONA 3 (Jordi Cruyff 51, Kodro 70, Figo 72) Att: 35,000

REAL VALLADOLID 0
COMPOSTELA 0. Att: 17,000

REAL BETIS 2 (Merino 34, Jarni 67)
VALLECANO 1 (Guilherme 39) Att: 9,000

SPORTING GIJON 4 (Lediakhov 26, 76, Julio Salinas 40, 63)
SANTANDER 2 (Alverto 36, Merino 47) Att: 20,600

REAL MADRID 2 (Amavisca 2, Zamorano 28)
OVIEDO 3 (Oli 7, 44, Rivas 47) Att: 60,000

LA CORUNA 2 (Donato 35, Fran 55)
SALAMANCA 0. Att: 27,000

MERIDA 0
VALENCIA 2 (Mijatovic 51, Fernando 55) Att: 12,500

CELTA VIGO 2 (Sanchez 8, Bajcetic 37)
TENERIFE 2 (Pizzi 27, Berges 44 og) Att: 23,000

SEVILLA 2 (Suker 9, Carlos 90)
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Karpin 6) Att: 35,497

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

WEEKEND

ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Vizcaino 9, Penev 54 pen)
SPORTING GIJON 0 Att: 55,000

ESPANYOL 1 (Raducioiu 36)
REAL SOCIEDAD 0 Att: 20,000

BARCELONA 2 (Nadal 34, Figo 90)
RAYO VALLECANO 0 Att: 70,000

COMPOSTELLA 1 (Christensen 15)
MERIDA 0 Att: 10,000

REAL BETIS 0
REAL MADRID 0 Att: 46,000

REAL OVIEDO 0
ATHLETIC BILBAO 0 Att: 15,000

TENERIFE 1 (Pizzi 72)
LA CORUNA 1 (Bebeto 88) Att: 20,000

VALENCIA 0
REAL ZARAGOZA 0 Att: 45,000

ALBACETE 4 (Zalazar 51, 84 pen, Alejandro 55, Coco 63)
CELTA VIGO 0 Att: 13,000

RACING SANTANDER 1 (Suances 26)
SEVILLA 1 (Carlos 39) Att: 46,000

SALAMANCA 0
REAL VALLADOLID 0 Att: 17,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

WEEKEND

ESPANYOL 1
SANTANDER 0 (Javi 81) Att: 30,000

SEVILLA 0
ATLETICO MADRID 0 Att: 40,000

REAL MADRID 1 (Raul 12)
BARCELONA 1 (Roger 31) Att: 100,000

REAL OVIEDO 0
REAL BETIS 1 (Menendez 21) Att: 15,300

LA CORUNA 5 (Bebeto 2, 82, 84, 86, 89)
ALBACETE 0 Att: 28,000

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Morientes 29)
COMPOSTELA 0 Att: 30,000

ATHLETIC BILBAO 2 (Guerrero 38, 76)
SPORTING GIJON 1 (Julio Salinas 78) Att: 35,000

RAYO VALLECANO 3 (Aquino 53, Onesimo 79, Calderon 85)
VALENCIA 2 (Mijatovic 58pen, 74) Att: 6,000

VALLADOLID 3 (Peternac 28, Quevedo 38, Asanovic 91)
TENERIFE 0 Att: 14,000

CELTA VIGO 1 (Gil 44)
REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Purk 36) Att: 18,000

MERIDA 0
SALAMANCA 0 Att: 10,000

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Espanyol	5	5	0	0	10	2	15
Barcelona	6	4	2	0	14	4	14
Atletico Madrid	5	4	1	0	12	1	13
Compostela	6	4	1	1	7	1	13
Real Betis	6	3	3	0	7	3	12
Athletic Bilbao	6	3	2	1	8	4	11
La Coruna	6	3	1	2	12	7	10
Valencia	6	3	1	2	9	9	10
Real Zaragoza	6	3	1	2	4	6	10
Sporting Gijon	6	3	0	3	11	9	9
Albacete	6	3	0	3	11	13	9
Tenerife	6	2	2	2	6	10	8
Real Oviedo	6	2	1	3	6	8	7
Real Sociedad	6	2	1	3	7	9	7
Real Madrid	6	1	2	3	12	11	5
Real Valladolid	6	1	2	3	4	7	5
Sevilla	6	1	2	3	6	9	5
Celta Vigo	6	1	2	3	5	10	5
Racing Santander	6	1	1	4	5	15	4
Merida	6	0	3	3	3	7	3
Rayo Vallecano	6	1	0	5	5	14	3
Salamanca	6	0	2	4	1	7	2

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

WEEKEND

AARAU 2 (Markovic 24, Allenspach 90)
BASLE 0. Att: 6,800

FC ZURICH 2 (Di Jorio 23, Gambino 81)
SERVETTE 1 (Sesa 37) Att: 3,100

LAUSANNE 1 (Fruyandt 57)
GRASSHOPPER 2 (De Napoli 20, Lombardo 86) Att: 5,200

YOUNG BOYS 0
LUCERNE 4 (Fink 4, 49, 58, Merenda 69) Att: 3,200

ST GALLEN 1 (Sutter 76)
NEUCHATEL 1 (Moldovan 76) Att: 8,500

LUGANO 1 (Norf 14)
SION 3 (Vercruysse 34, Giallanza 61, La Placa 92) Att: 3,500

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

WEEKEND

BASLE 0
LAUSANNE 1 (Kuffer 73) Att: 14,500

GRASSHOPPER 3 (Yakin 36, Viscaal 79, 81)
ST GALLEN 1 (Thuler og 20) Att: 6,250

LUCERNE 1 (T. Wyss 38)
LUGANO 1 (Erceg 58) Att: 8,400

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 3 (Isabella 12, Moldovan 41, 62)
AARAU 2 (Senn 10, Ratinho 34) Att: 6,700

SERVETTE 0
YOUNG BOYS 0. Att: 4,500

SION 2 (Giallanza 10, Vercruysse 62)
FC ZURICH 2 (Guntensperger 41, 55) Att: 8,500

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

WEEKEND

GRASSHOPPER 2 (Viscaal 17, 52 pen)
NEUCHATEL 1 (Kagi 58) Att: 3,900

LAUSANNE 0
AARAU 2 (Skrypczak 23, Allenspach 90) Att: 4,200

LUCERNE 2 (Wolf 42, 64)
SERVETTE 1 (Barberis 75) Att: 8,700

YOUNG BOYS v SION – ***postponed***

ST GALLEN 0
BASLE 1 (Rey 38) Att: 11,500

LUGANO 1 (Manfreda 65)
FC ZURICH 1 (Andersen 81) Att: 3,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIDWEEK

GRASSHOPPER 2 (Viscaal 11, De Napoli 53)
AARAU 1 (Kirik 72) Att: 4,650

YOUNG BOYS 1 (Aduobe 73)
SION 4 (Buhlmann 20, 72, Chassot 58, La Placa 61) Att: 7,000

SWISS CUP – 1ST ROUND

CHENOIS 0 SERVETTE 2; FRAUENFELD 0 ST GALLEN 5; KLOS-BALSTHAL 0 LUCERNE 3; RED STAR 1 FC ZURICH 4; SOBINGEN 1 BASEL 6; YVERDON 1 LAUSANNE 2

WEEKEND

AARAU 5 (Kirik 13, Senn 19, Skrzypczak 22, 52, Kilian 40)
ST GALLEN 1 (Fonseca pen 15) Att: 3,100

BASLE 1 (Moro 86)
GRASSHOPPER 3 (Comisetti 17, 18, De Napoli 71) Att: 8,000

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 4 (Rueda 26, Kunz 45, 78, Vernier 66)
LAUSANNE 2 (Fryand 44, 53) Att: 6,600

SERVETTE 2 (Fernandez 14, Neuville 51)
LUGANO 3 (Sinval 5, Shalimov 56, 72) Att:3,600

SION 1 (Kombouare pen 67)
LUCERNE 3 (Kurniawan 54, Sawu 60, T. Wyss 86) Att: 6,800

FC ZURICH 0
YOUNG BOYS 0 Att: 2,800

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grasshopper	12	9	1	2	25	11	28
Neuchatel	13	8	1	4	24	16	25
Sion	13	8	1	4	22	17	25
Lucerne	13	6	4	3	21	17	22
Basle	13	6	1	6	14	16	19
St Gallen	13	4	5	4	17	16	17
Lausanne	13	4	4	5	17	15	16
Aarau	13	4	3	6	19	19	15
Lugano	12	3	4	5	13	21	13
Servette	13	3	4	6	17	16	13
Young Boys	13	2	5	6	8	18	11
FC Zurich	13	1	5	7	8	23	8

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - 1995-96

SEPTEMBER 13 - MATCHDAY ONE

GROUP A

KIEV DYNAMO 1 (Kosovski 61)
PANATHINAIKOS 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 85,000. **Ref:** A J Lopez Nieto (Spa).
Kiev: Shovkosvki - Luzhni (Shmatovalenko 71), Bezhenar, Golovko, Maksimov (Mizin 84), Dmitrulin, Pokhlebaev, Kalitvintsev, Kosovski, Rebrov (Skachenko 74), Shevchenko.
Panathinaikos: Nikopolidis - Apostolakis, Ouzounidis, Markos, Kapouranis, G S Georgiadis, Borelli (Christodolou 68), Alexoudis, Warzycha, Maragos (Lagonikakis 79), Donis.

NANTES 0
FC PORTO 0
Att: 25,000. **Ref:** H-J Weber (Ger).
Nantes: Marraud - Le Dizet, Pignol, Decroix, Guyot, Carotti, Makelele, Cauet, Kosecki, N'Doram, Renou (Garcion 63).
FC Porto: Vitor Baia - Joao Pinto, Paulinho, Aloisio, Ze Carlos, Emerson (Bino 90), Secretario, Rui Barros, Domingos (Folha 77), Latapy, Mielcarski.

GROUP B

BLACKBURN ROVERS 0
MOSCOW SPARTAK 1 (Yuran 41)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,940. **Ref:** M Piraux (Bel).
Blackburn: Flowers - Berg, Le Saux, Sherwood, Hendry, Pearce, Ripley (Makel 46), Batty, Shearer, Newell, Atkins (Sutton 73).
Spartak: Cherchesov - Khlestov, Nikiforov, Tsimbalar, Mamedov, Yuran, Onopko, Kulkov, Schmarov (Kechinov 89), Piatnitski, Tikhonov.

LEGIA WARSAW 3 (Pisz 64, 73, Staniek 69)
ROSENBORG 1 (Jakobsen 63)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** A Porumboiu (Rom).
Legia: Szczesny - Mandziejewicz, Jozwiak, Bednarz (Fedoruk 84), Zielinski, Lewandowski, Pisz, Ratajczak, Staniek, Kubica (Kucharski 46), Wieszczycki (Michalski 81).
Rosenborg: Jamtfall - Kvarme, Hoftun, Bragstad, Stensaas, Strand, Soltvedt (Heggem 79), Skammelsrud, Loken, Iversen (Staurvik 90), Jakobsen.

GROUP C

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1 (Moller 38sec)
JUVENTUS 3 (Padovano 12, Del Piero 37, Conte 69)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 35,800. **Ref:** K Rothlisberger (Swi).
Dortmund: Klos - Reinhardt, Kohler, Freund, Julio Cesar, Sammer, Reuter, Zorc (Sosa 46), Tretschok (Tanko 46), Moller, Herrlich (Ricken 73).
Juventus: Peruzzi - Ferrara, Pessotto, Torricelli, Porrini, Paulo Sousa, Di Livio, Conte (Marocchi 87), Padovano, Del Piero (Deschamps 90), Jugovic.

STEAUA BUCHAREST 1 (Prodan 84)
RANGERS 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 26,000. **Ref:** A Sars (Fra).
Steaua: Stelea - Csik, Pirvu, Dobos, Gilca, Prodan, Raducan, Militaru*, Vladoiu (S Ilie 79), A Ilie (Rosu 61), Bucur (Filipescu 46).
Militaru sent off, 76min.
Rangers: Goram - Wright, Cleland, Gough, McLaren*, Petric, Miller (Durie 72), Gascoigne, McCoist, Durrant (Murray 82), B Laudrup.
** = McLaren sent off, 76min.*

GROUP D

AJAX 1 (Overmars 14)
REAL MADRID 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 42,000. **Ref:** P Ceccarini (Ita).
Ajax: Van der Sar - Reiziger, F de Boer, Litmanen, Bogarde, R de Boer (Tuhuteru 87), George, Davids, Kanu (Musampa 69), Reuser (Wooter 46), Overmars.
Madrid: Buyo - Chendo, Lasa, Hierro, Sanchis, Redondo, Raul, Luis Enrique, Zamorano, Sandro (Rincon 54), Amavisca (Michel 69).

GRASSHOPPER 0
FERENCVAROS 3 (Lisztes 61, O Vincze 81, 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** R Pedersen (Nor).
Grasshopper: Zuberbuhler - Vogel, Thuler (P De Napoli 67), Gren*, Vega, Koller, Geiger, M Lombardo, Magnin (Viscaal 67), Yakin, Comisetti (Ali Ibrahim 57).
** = Gren sent off, 33min.*
Ferencvaros: Hajdu - Simon, Telek, Milovanovics, Szucs, Zavadszky (Z Nagy 77), O Vincze, Kopunovics, Nyilas, Lisztes, Fatusi.

SEPTEMBER 27 - MATCHDAY TWO

GROUP A

PANATHINAIKOS 3 (G C Georgiadis 17, Warzycha 30, 46)
NANTES 1 (N'Doram 88)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 62,000. **Ref:** Zhuk (Bye)
Panathinaikos: Wandzik - Borelli (Nioplias 80), Ouzounidis, G C Georgiadis, Kalitzakis, G S Georgiadis, Markos, Alexoudis (Kapouranis 68), Warzycha, Maragos (Kolitsidakis 87), Donis.
Nantes: Marraud - Le Dizet, Pignol, Decroix (Chanelet 69), Guyot, Carotti, Makelele (Renou 76), Cauet, Ouedec (Peyrelade 69), N'Doram, Kosecki.

FC PORTO 2 (Rui Barros 41, 62)
AAB AALBORG 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Mottram (Sco)
FC Porto: Vitor Baia - Joao Pinto (Bino 73), Paulinho, Jorge Costa, Ze Carlos, Emerson, Secretario, Mielcarski (Rui Barros 36), Domingos, Latapy, Drulovic (Folha 79).
Aalborg: Gill - L H Thomsen (Thomasberg 17), Boye, Kristensen, Jessen, Facius, Simonsen, Pedersen (Madsen 63), Andersen, H Rasmussen, P Rasmussen (Gronkjaer 79).

GROUP B

ROSENBORG 2 (Loken 29, Stensaas 86)
BLACKBURN ROVERS 1 (Newell 62)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Benko (Aut)
Rosenborg: By Rise - Kvarme, Hoftun, Bragstad, Stensaas, Strand (Staurvik 82), Solvedt, Skammelsrud, Loken (Iversen 71), Brattbakk (Heggem 90), Jakobsen.
Blackburn: Flowers - Berg, Kenna, Sherwood (Warhurst 84), Hendry, Pearce, Batty, Sutton, Shearer, Newell, Makei (Ripley 46).

MOSCOW SPARTAK 2 (Nikiforov 13 pen, Yuran 52)
LEGIA WARSAW 1 (Jozwiak 82)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Vagner (Hun)
Spartak: Cherchesov - Khlestov, Nikiforov, Tsymbalar, Mamedov, Yuran, Onopko, Kulkov, Shmarov, Piatnitsky, Tikhonov.
Legia: Szczesny - Mandziejewicz, Jozwiak, Bednarz, Zielinski, Lewandowski (Ratayczyk 34), Pisz, Michalski (Fedoruk 71), Staniek (Kubica 83), Kucharski, Wieszczycki.

GROUP C

RANGERS 2 (Gough 64, Ferguson 73)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Herrlich 19, Kree 68)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 33,209. **Ref:** Uilenberg (Hol)
Rangers: Goram - Wright, Cleland, Gough, McCall, Petric, Miller, Gascoigne, McCoist, Durie (Durrant 75), B Laudrup (Ferguson 46).
Dortmund: Klos - Kohler, Kree, Freund, Julio Cesar (Schmidt 53), Sammer, Reuter, Zorc, Ricken (Bergen 80), Moller (Tretschok 84), Herrlich.

JUVENTUS 3 (Di Livio 35, Del Piero 40, Ravanelli 49)
STEAUA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Gallagher (Eng)
Juventus: Peruzzi - Ferrara, Pessotto, Tacchinardi (Vierchowod 82), Torricelli, Paulo Sousa, Di Livio, Deschamps, Vialli, Del Piero (Padovano 72), Ravanelli (Conte 67).
Steaua: Stelea - Csik, Pirvu, Dobos, Galca, Prodan, Lacatus (D Rosu 54), Raducan, Vladoiu, A Ilie (Panait 79), Filipescu (Nagy 83).

GROUP D

FERENCVAROS 1 (Nyilas 59pen)
AJAX 5 (Litmanen 57, 79pen, 87, Kluivert 67, F de Boer 84)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Nikakis (Gre)
Ferencvaros: Hajdu - Simon, Telek, Koucnyecov (Keller 79), Kecskes, Kuntics, O Vincze, Kopunovics, Nyilas, Lisztes, Zavadszky.
Ajax: Van der Sar - Reiziger, Blind, F de Boer, Bogarde, R de Boer, George, Davids, Kanu (Kluivert 57), Litmanen, Overmars.

REAL MADRID 2 (Zamorano 69, 89)
GRASSHOPPER 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 62,000. **Ref:** Przesmycki (Pol)
Madrid: Buyo - Quique Flores, Lasa, Hierro, Sanchis, Milla, Raul, Rincon (Michel 46), Zamorano, Laudrup (Luis Enrique 74), Amavisca (Soler 59).
Grasshopper: Zuberbuhler - Nemtsoudis, Thuler, Geiger, Vega, Koller, Yakin, Lombardo, Duke (De Napoli 57), Vogel (Viscaal 76), Comisetti (Magnin 66).

95-96 CUP-WINNERS CUP

1ST RND, 1ST LEG
(Sep 14 unless stated)

AEK ATHENS 2 (Vlachos 45, Borbokis 70)
SION 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000.

APOEL NICOSIA 0
LA CORUNA 0
Att: 6,500.

BATUMI DYNAMO (Geo) 2 (Machutadze 11, Tugushi 68)
CELTIC 3 (Thom 24, 87, Donnelly 42)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 17,000. **Ref:** A Klein (Isr).
Batumi: Baladze - Malanya (Antidze 46), Shanidze, Mujiri, Shekiladze, Torgashvili, Makharadze, Machutadze, Tugushi (Glonti 85), Udjmaruridze (Marhazadze 46), Mindadze.
Celtic: Marshall - Boyd, McKinlay, Vata, Hughes, Grant, O'Donnell, Donnelly (Falconer 75), Walker (McLaughlin 89), Thom, Collins.

BORUSSIA MG 3 (Pflipsen 6, Effenberg 69, Klinkert 87)
SILEKS KRATOVO (Mac) 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 19,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Spehar 87)
SHAKTYOR DONETSK 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000.

DAG LIEPAJA 0
FEYENOORD 7 (Larsson 1, Blinker 47, 57, 60, Trustfull 59, Koeman 76, Obiku 87)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,500

HRADEC KRALOVE 5 (Sarnec 32, 76, Hynek 39, Cerny 53, Ptacek 90)
FC COPENHAGEN 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,532.

INTER BRATISLAVA 0
ZARAGOZA 2 (Morientes 43, Oscar 61)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,000.

KR REYKJAVIK 2 (Bibercic 36pen, 67pen)
EVERTON 3 (Ebbrell 22, Unsworth 57pen, Amokachi 88)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 6,000. **Ref:** R Phillipe (Lux).
Reykjavik: Finnbogason - Adolfsson, Dervic, Egilsson, Jonsson, Porca, Bjornsson, Danielsson, Bibercic, Gudjonsson, Benediktsson.
Everton: Southall, Jackson (Holmes 61), Ablett, Unsworth, Watson, Hinchcliffe, Amokachi, Parkinson, Rideout, Ebbrell, Limpar (Grant 63).

LOKOMOTIV SOFIA 3 (Marinov 40, Petkov 43, Donev 57)
HALMSTADS 1 (Svensson 33)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 4,000.

MOLDE FK 2 (Solskjaer 55, Stavrum 81)
PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN 3 (Le Guen 75, Djorkaeff 78, Dely Valdes 83)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,300.

MOSCOW DYNAMO 3 (Teryokhin 45, 90, Safronov 73)
ARARAT YEREVAN 1 (Stepanyan 71)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,500.

RAPID VIENNA 3 (Barisic 45, 90pen, Trifon Ivanov 60)
PETROLUL PLOESTI 1 (Toader 65)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,000.

SPORTING LISBON 4 (Barbosa 7, 10, 48, Sa Pinto 89)
MACCABI HAIFA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 35,000.

TEUTA DURRESI 0
PARMA 2 (Zola 81, 83)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000

ZHALGIRIS VILNIUS 2 (Tereskinas 7, Mikuleivas 67)
TRABZONSPOR 2 (C Aveladze 25, Abdula 54)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 3,000.

FIRST RND, 2ND LEG
(Sep 28 unless stated)

ARARAT YEREVAN 0
DYNAMO MOSCOW 1 (Teryokhin 66)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000
Dynamo Moscow 4-1 on agg

CELTIC 4 (Thom 18, 20, Donnelly 46, Walker 90)
BATUMI DYNAMO 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 31,969. **Ref:** G Orrason (Ice).
Celtic 7-2 on agg
Celtic: Marshall - Boyd, McKinlay, Vata, Hughes, Grant, Donnelly (Hay 56), McStay, Van Hooydonk (Walker 62), Thom (Gray 70), McLaughlin.
Batumi: Togonidze - Shanidze, Phutkaradza (Glonti 60), Mujiri, Shekiladze, Torgashvili, Makharadze, Kantidze (Makharadze 46), Tugushi, Udjmaruridze, Mindadze.

EVERTON 3 (Stuart 56, Grant 65, Rideout 87)
KR REYKJAVIK 1 (Danielsson 20)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 18,422. **Ref:** Gadosi (Slovak).
Everton 6-3 on agg
Everton: Southall - Barrett, Hinchcliffe, Unsworth, Short, Ebbrell, Grant, Parkinson, Limpar, Amokachi (Stuart 38), Rideout.
Reykjavik: Finnbogason - Adolfsson, Dervic, Egilsson, Jonsson, Gunnarsson, Bjornsson, Danielsson, Bibercic (Porca 81), Gudjonsson, Benediktsson (Haraldsson 81).

FC COPENHAGEN 2 (Tengstedt 28, Tur 72)
HRADEC KRALOVE 2 (Urbanek 8, Rehar 12)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 4,432.
Hradec Kralove 7-2 on agg

FEYENOORD 6 (Heus 38pen, Trustfull 44, Obiku 57, 63, 64, Glaucio 61)
DAG LIEPAJA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000.
Feyenoord 13-0 on agg

HALMSTAD 2 (R Andersson 22, T Andersson 75)
LOKOMOTIV SOFIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 3,145
Halmstad on away goals, agg 3-3

LA CORUNA 8 (Radchenko 28, 66, Bebeto 16, 21, 50, Donato 60, Beguiristain 42, Aldana 79)
APOEL NICOSIA 0
HT: 4-0. **Att:** 15,000.
La Coruna 8-0 on agg

MACCABI HAIFA 0
SPORTING LISBON 0
Att: 7,000.
Sporting 4-0 on agg

PARIS SG 3 (Nouma 7, 13, Djorkaeff 77)
MOLDE 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 17,000.
Paris SG 6-2 on agg

PARMA 2 (Melli 8, Inzaghi 90)
TEUTA DURRESI 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,200.
Parma 4-0 on agg

PETROLUL PLOIESTI 0
RAPID VIENNA 0
Att: 12,000.
Rapid 3-1 on agg

SHAKHTYOR DONETSK 1 (Voskoboinyk 63)
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Stanic 61)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 39,000.
Club Brugge 2-1 on agg

SILEKS 2 (Boskoski 60, Memedi 52)
BORUSSIA MG 3 (Effenberg 28, Dahlin 53, Nielsen 81)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.
Borussia 6-2 on agg

SION 2 (Bonvin 20, Giallanza 85)
AEK ATHENS 2 (Ketspaja 84, Batista 87)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 6,900.
AEK 4-2 on agg

TRABZONSPOR 1 (Hami 37)
ZHALGIRIS VILNIUS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000.
Trabzonspor 3-2 on agg

ZARAGOZA 3 (Poyet 32, Frabcisco Higuera 56, Dani 67)
INTER BRATISLAVA 1 (Martin 76pen)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 14,000.
Zaragoza 5-1 on agg

SECOND ROUND DRAW

Sporting Lisbon v Rapid Vienna
Dynamo Moscow v Hradec Kralove
Halmstadt v Parma
Paris SG v Celtic
Zaragoza v Club Brugge
Borussia Mg v AEK Athens
Everton v Feyenoord
Trabzonspor v La Coruna
Matches to be played October 19 and November 2

1995-96 UEFA CUP

FIRST RND, FIRST LEG
(Sep 12 unless stated)

FARENSE 0
LYON 1 (Giuly 6)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,500 *(Sep 13)*

GLENAVON 0
WERDER BREMEN 2 (Cardoso 60, Vier 89)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,500 *(Sep 13)*. **Ref:** Temmink (Hol).

LENS 6 (Aboubacar Camara 10, 48, Frederic Meyrieu 39, Joel Tiehy 54, 75, Roger Boli 70)
AVENIR BEGGEN 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 25,000 *(Sep 14)*

VARDAR 0
BORDEAUX 2 (Anthony Bancarel 26, 75)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 5,000 *(Sep 14)*

BAYERN MUNICH 0
LOKOMOTIVE MOSCOW 1 (Charlatchev 71)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 22,000.

BRONDBY 3 (Hansen 38, Eggen 57, Bjur 87pen)
LILLESTROM 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,686.

CHERNOMORETS 1 (Kozakevich 87)
WIDZEW LODZ 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,000.

FENERBAHCE 1 (Aykut Kocaman 75)
REAL BETIS 2 (Pier 28, Sabas 79)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 15,000.

FK AUSTRIA 1 (Kogler 84)
DYNAMO MINSK 2 (Zhuravel 25, Shukanov 40)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 4,000.

FREIBURG 1 (Todt 78)
SLAVIA PRAGUE 2 (Novotny 23, Penicka 75)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 18,000.

HAPOEL BEERSHEBA 0
BARCELONA 7 (Ivan 4, Garcia Roger 45, 67, 78, Oscar Garcia 62, Figo 65, 81)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 15,000.

LAZIO 5 (Casiraghi 11, 16, 89, Rambaudi 53, Signori 55pen)
OMONIA NICOSIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000.

LEVSKI SOFIA 1 (Vasilev 68)
EENDRACHT AALST 2 (Markov og 58, Paas 77)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000.

LIERSE 1 (Huysmans 38pen)
BENFICA 3 (Valdo 27pen, Marcelo 51, Paulo Bento 63)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 9,300.

LUGANO 1 (Carrasco 67)
INTERNAZIONALE 1 (Roberto Carlos 12)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,300.

MALMO 2 (J Persson 59, A Andersson 71)
NOTTM FOREST 1 (Woan 36)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,486. **Ref:** Krug (Ger).
Malmo FF: Fedel - Nylen, Olsen, Wirmola, T. Persson, D. Andersson, J. Persson, A. Andersson, Fjellstrom (Thylander 79), Prytz, Petterson.
Forest: Crossley - Lyttle, Pearce (Bart-Williams 23), Cooper, Chettle, Gemmill, Phillips, Stone, Campbell (Lee 53), Roy, Woan.

MILAN 4 (Savicevic 11, Machaj og 46, Weah 67, Boban 71)
ZAGLEBIE LUBIN 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,629.

MONACO 0
LEEDS UTD 3 (Yeboah 2, 65, 81)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** J M Encinar (Spa).
Monaco: Piveteau (Delaroche 46; Puel 82) - Valery, Di Meco, Thuram, Boli, Dumas, Dos Santos, Legwinski (Henry 73), Anderson, Scifo, Wreh.
Leeds: Lukic - Kelly, Dorigo (Beesley 46), Palmer, Pemberton, Wetherall, Whelan, Yeboah, Deane, McAllister, Speed.

MyPa 1 (Mahlio 29)
PSV EINDHOVEN 1 (Ronaldo 50)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,000 (in Lahti).

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 1 (Jeanneret 14)
AS ROMA 1 (Moriero 20)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 11,550.

OLYMPIAKOS 2 (Juskowiak 52, Skartados 69pen)
MARIBOR BRANIK 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 22,000.

RAITH ROVERS 3 (Lennon 14, 66, Wilson 79)
IA AKRANES 1 (O Thordarsson 44)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 5,284. **Ref:** B Babarojic (Yug).
Raith: Thomson, McAnespie, Broddle, Kirkwood, Dennis, Sinclair, Wilson (Coyle 85), Cameron, Crawford (Graham 59), Lennon, Rougier (Dair 28).
Akranes: T Thordarson - Haraldssan, Hogneson, Johsson, Adolfson, Miljkovic, B. Gunnlangsson, Gislason, A Gunnlangsson, O Thordarson, Ingolfsson (S Thordarson 79).

RODA JC 5 (Van Galen 3, Roelofsen 24, Babangida 35, Graef 45, de Kock 90pen)
OLIMPIJA LJUBLUJANA 0
HT: 4-0. **Att:** 10,500.

ROTOR VOLGOGRAD 0
MANCHESTER UTD 0
Att: 39,000. Referee: P Mikkelsen (Den).
Rotor: Samorukov - Shmarko, Burlachenko, Gerashenko, Eschenko, Zhunenko, Korniets, Nidergaus, Veretennikov, Esipov, Zernov (Krivov 79).
Man Utd: Schmeichel - Neville, Irwin, Bruce Sharpe, Pallister, Beckham, Butt, Scholes (Parker 71), Keane (Davies 23), Giggs.

SEVILLA 2 (Suker 27, 36)
BOTEV PLOVDIV 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 40,000.

SPARTA PRAGUE 0
SILKEBORG 1 (Fernandez 6)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,875.

SPARTAK VLADIKAVKAZ 1 (Kasimov 21)
LIVERPOOL 2 (McManaman 33, Redknapp
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 38,000. **Ref:** Remy Harrel (Fra).
Vladikavkaz: Hapov; Pagaev (Timofeyev 46) Gorlukovich (Kornienko 80), Chelia, Djioev, Tetradze, Tedaev, Ynovski, Kasimov (Derkac 46), Ktanithev, Kavelasachvili.
Liverpool: James; Jones, Harkness, Babb, Wright, Ruddock, McManaman, Collymore (Fowler 78), Thomas, Barnes, Redknapp.

SLOVAN BRATISLAVA 2 (Tittel 28, Sobona 74)
KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Hollerbach 64)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000-18,000.

STRASBOURG 3 (Zitelli 7, Leboeuf 72pen, Baticle 74)
UJPEST TE 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 25,000.

VIKING STAVANGER 1 (Ulfstein 55)
AUXERRE 1 (West 14)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,097.

VITORIA GUIMARAES 3 (Estevan 21, 88, Ne 55)
STANDARD LIEGE 1 (Schepens 30)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 18,000.

ZIMBRU CHISINAU 1 (Testimitanu 40)
RAF RIGA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 7,500.

1ST RND, 2ND LEG
(Sep 26 unless stated)

AALST 1 (Lamberg 59)
LEVSKI SOFIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,500
Aalst 3-1 on agg

AKRANES 1 (A Gunnlaugsson 51)
RAITH 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Luinge (Hol)
Raith 3-2 on agg
Akranes: T Thordarson - Haraldssan, Hogneson, Jonsson, Adolfson, Miljkovic, B Gunnlaugsson, Gislason, A Gunnlaugsson, O Thordarson, Ingolfsson (Stojic 75).
Raith: Thomson - McAnespie, Broddle, Coyle Dennis, Sinclair, Kirkwood, Cameron, Crawfor (Wilson 75), Lennon, Dair (McInally 87).

AUXERRE 1 (Silvestre 48)
VIKING STAVANGER 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000
Auxerre 2-1 on agg

AVENIR BEGGEN 0
LENS 7 (Camara 20, Meyrieu 25, R Boli 40, Delmotte 55, 73, Tiehi 57, 72)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 1,000 (Sep 27)
Lens 13-0 on agg

BARCELONA 5 (Guardiola 12, Hagi 27, Toni 51, Carreras 61, Amor 65)
HAPOEL BEERSHEBA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 27,000
Barcelona 12-0 on agg

BENFICA 2 (Joao Pinto 24, Kenedy 60)
LIERSE 1 (Vanderckoven 34)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 40,000
Benfica 5-2 on agg

REAL BETIS 2 (Trujillo 21pen, Juan Canas 37
FENERBAHCE 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 39,000
Betis 4-1 on agg

BORDEAUX 1 (Lizarazu 62pen)
VARDAR SKOPJE 1 (Serafimovski 57)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,000 (Sep 28)
Bordeaux 3-1 on agg

BOTEV PLOVDIV 1 (R Ivanov 69)
SEVILLA 1 (Ramon Monchu 57)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000.
Sevilla 3-1 on agg

INTERNAZIONALE 0
LUGANO 1 (Carrasco 85)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000
Lugano 2-1 on agg

KAISERSLAUTERN 3 (Wegmann 27, 56, Wollitz 38)
SLOVAN BRATISLAVA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 20,000
Kaiserslautern 4-2 on agg

LEEDS 0
MONACO 1 (Anderson 23)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 24,501. **Ref:** Muhmenthaler (Sw
Leeds 3-1 on agg
Leeds: Lukic - Kelly, Wetherall, Pemberton (Couzens 80), Beesley, White (Tinkler 53), Palmer, McAllister, Speed, Deane, Yeboah.
Monaco: Barthez - Thuram, Petit, Boli, Dumas Puel, Dos Santos (Wreh 82), Viaud (Petersen 62), Anderson, Scifo, Madar.

LILLESTROM 0
BRONDBY 0
Att: 1,090.

Brondby 3-0 on agg

LIVERPOOL 0
SPARTAK VLADIKAVKAZ 0
Att: 35,042. **Ref:** Ulrich (Cze)
Liverpool 2-1 on agg
Liverpool: James - Jones, Harkness, Babb, Wright, Ruddock, McManaman, Redknapp, Fowler (Rush 76), Barnes, Thomas.
Spartak: Khapov - Pagayev, Kornienko (Timofeev 46), Shelia, Djioev, Tetradze, Tedeev, Ianovski, Kasimov, Suliemanov, Kanichev (Derkach 46).

LOKOMOTIV MOSCOW 0
BAYERN MUNICH 5 (Klinsmann 26, 35, Herzog 39, Scholl 45, Strunz 78)
HT: 0-4. **Att:** 22,000.
Bayern 5-1 on agg

LYON 1 (Sassus 48)
FARENSE 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000.
Lyon 2-0 on agg

MANCHESTER UNITED 2 (Scholes 59, Schmeichel 89)
ROTOR VOLGOGRAD 2 (Nidergaus 16, Veretennikov 24)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 29,724. **Ref:** Heynemann (Ger)
Rotor on away goals, 2-2 agg
Man Utd: Schmeichel - O'Kane (Scholes 26), Neville, Bruce, Sharpe, Pallister, Beckham (Cooke 82), Butt, Cole, Keane, Giggs.
Rotor Volgograd: Samorukov, Shmarko, Burlatchenko, Berketov, Estchenko (Tsarenko 69), Junenko, Korniets, Nidergaus (Krivov 77), Veretennikov, Esipov, Zernov (Ilushim 72).

MARIBOR BRANIK 1 (Karic 70)
OLYMPIAKOS 3 (Ivic 38, Skartados 63, Hantzidis 82)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,000
Olympiakos 5-1 on agg

MINSK DYNAMO 1 (Belkevich 90)
FK AUSTRIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000
Minsk 3-1 on agg

NOTTM FOREST 1 (Roy 69)
MALMO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 23,817. **Ref:** Batta (Fra)
Forest on away goals, agg: 2-2
Forest: Crossley - Lyttle, Pearce, Cooper, Chettle, Bart-Williams, Stone, Bohinen (Gemmill 88), Lee, Roy (Silenzi 88), Woan.
Malmo: Fedel - Ohlssen, T Persson, Wirmola, D Andersson (Dahlstrom 75), Nylen, A Andersson, J Persson, Fjellstrom (Olsson 61), Prytz, Petterson.

OLIMPIJA LJUBLJANA 2 (Bozgo 37pen, Zulic 74pen)
RODA JC 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 2,500.
Roda 5-2 on agg

OMONIA NICOSIA 1 (Xiourouppas 68)
LAZIO 2 (Casiraghi 15, Di Vaio 74)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 3,000
Lazio 7-1 on agg

PSV EINDHOVEN 7 (Ronaldo 15, 45, 73, 83, Jonk 57, 71, Hoekstra 66)
MyPa 1 (Keskitalo 16)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 10,800
PSV 8-2 on agg

RAF RIGA 1 (Zuyev 76)
ZIMBRU CHISINAU 2 (Gavriluk 5, 25)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 300
Zimbru Chisinau 3-1 on agg

AS ROMA 4 (Balbo 26, 35, Fonseca 32, Rueda og 49)
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 15,000
Roma 5-1 on agg

SILKEBORG 1 (Duus 52)
SPARTA PRAGUE 2 (Lokvenc 21, Nemec 51)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 5,200
Sparta on away goals, 2-2 agg

SLAVIA PRAGUE 0
FREIBURG 0
Att: 9,328.
Slavia Prague 2-1 on agg

STANDARD LIEGE 0
GUIMARAES 0
Att: 12,000
Guimaraes 3-1 on agg

UJPEST 0
STRASBOURG 2 (Mostovoi 9t, Zitelli 77)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,000 *(Sep 28).*
Strasbourg 5-0 on agg

WERDER BREMEN 5 (Hobsch 26, 36, 39, Basler 37pen, Borowka 66)
GLENAVON 0
HT: 4-0. **Att:** 13,727 *(Sep 27).*
Bremen 7-0 on agg

WIDZEW LODZ 1 (Michalczuk 80)
CHORNOMORETS 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 13,000.
Chornomorets 6-5 on pens, 1-1 agg

ZAGLEBIE LUBIN 1 (Krzyzanowski 73)
MILAN 4 (Eranio 51, Simone 63, Boban 86, 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000.
Milan 8-1 on agg

SECOND ROUND DRAW

Auxerre v Nottm Forest
Barcelona v Guimaraes
Roma v Aalst
Lugano v Slavia Prague
Chornomorets v Lens
Brondby v Liverpool
Werder Bremen v Dynamo Minsk
Strasbourg v Milan
Benfica v Roda
Sparta v Zimbru Chisinau
Bordeaux v Rotor Volgograd
Kaiserslautern v Real Betis
Leeds United v PSV Eindhoven
Sevilla v Olympiakos
Lyon v Lazio
Raith Rovers v Bayern Munich
Matches to be played on October 17 & 31

INTERNATIONALS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

Tokyo - Kobe Earthquake Benefit

AMERICAS XI 5
REST OF THE WORLD 1
Americas: Campos (Cristante 46) - Jorginho (Dely Valdes 55), Gamarra, Balboa, R Gonzalez (J Reynoso 46) - Dunga, Cesar Sampaio, Zinho, Zico (Valderrama 31) - Hermosillo (E Sanchez 46), Medina Bello (J Sampos 66). ***Coach:*** Milutinovic.
Rest of the World: Bell (Cherchesov 31; Preud'homme 60) - Ihara, Hashiratani, Hong Myung Bo (Rufer 76), Tataw - Buchwald, D Stojkovic, Al-Oweiran (Littbarski 60) - Littbarski (Sirakov 31), Protasov (Amunike 46), Miura (Massaro 66). ***Coach:*** Hodgson.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Wembley - international friendly

ENGLAND 0
COLOMBIA 0
Att: 20,000. **Ref:** Batta (Fra)
England: Seaman - Neville, Le Saux, Redknapp (Barnes 74), Adams, Howey, Barmby, Shearer (Sheringham 74), McManaman, Gascoigne (Lee 74), Wise.
Colombia: Higuita - Santa, Mendoza, Bermudez, Perez, Alvarez, Lozano (Quinones 45), Rincon, Valderrama, Asprilla, Valenciano.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Salonika - international friendly

GREECE 0
YUGOSLAVIA 2 (Curcic 55, Milojevic 85)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Urbaev (Bul)
Greece: Mihopoulos (Atmatzidis 46) - Apostolakis, Kasapis (Donis 46), Ouzounidis (Karataidis 46), Kalitzakis (Dabizas 46) - Zagorakis (Sakellaridis 65), Tsaluhidis (K Konstantinidis 59), Koudas (Tsartas 28; Niniadis 67), G H Georgiadis - Batista (Mahlas 46), Alexandris (Georgatos 46).
Yugoslavia: Milojevic - Mirkovic, Djorovic, Djukis, Stevanovic - Jokanovic, Curcic (Bolic 77), Milosevic, Mijatovic - Savicevic (Pantelic 65), Nadj (Saula 56).

Jerusalem - international friendly

ISRAEL 3 (Ohana 33, Atar 57, Dricks 79)
URUGUAY 1 (M Otero 64)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 9,000.
Israel: Ginzburg - Halfon, Amsalem, Hazan, Brumer, Klinger, Banin, Zohar, Benado, Atar, Ohana.
Uruguay: Romay - Herrera, Elias, Mendez, A Gutierrez, Moran, M Otero, E Dos Santos, R Da Silva, Adinolfi, Magallanes.

Tokyo international friendly

JAPAN 1 (K Miura 23)
PARAGUAY 2 (Isasi 33, V Ferreira 56)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Trentalange (Ita)
Japan: Maekawa - Hashiratani, Ihara, Omura - Yamaguchi, Soma, Narahashi (Sawada 74), Kitazawa (Morishima 67), Maezono - Fukuda (Jo 81), K Miura (Okano 67).
Paraguay: Aceval - Isasi (Romero 46), Alcaraz, Villamayor, P A Sarabia - Enciso, Ortiz, Ferreira - Garay (Gomez 89), Campos, Villagra (Avalos 46).

Madrid, Calderon - international friendly

SPAIN 2 (Pizzi 35, Guerrero 68)
ARGENTINA 1 (Ortega 80)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 32,000. **Ref:** Sotirios (Gre)
Spain: Zubizarreta - Ferrer, Sergi, Alkorta, Abelardo, Nadal, Caminero (Hierro 46), Fran (Guerrero 58), Pizzi (Alfonso 46), Donato (Luis Enrique 76), Manjarin.
Argentina: Burgos - Ayala, Chamot, Zanetti, Astrada, Caceres, Balbo, Simeone, Batistuta, Ortega, Borrelli (Gallardo 61).

LIBERTADORES CUP

FINAL – 1st leg

AUG 23 - PORTO ALEGRE (BRAZIL)

GREMIO (Bra) 3 (Marulanda og, Jardel, Paulo Nunes)
NACIONAL (Col) 1 (Angel)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** A. Rodas (Ecu) **Att:** 50,000.
Gremio: Danrlei, Arce, Rivarola, Adilson, Roger, Dinho, Goiano, Arilson (Alexandre), Carlos Miguel, Paulo Nunes (Nildo), Jardel.
Nacional: Higuita, Santa, Marulanda, Foronda, Mosquera, Serna, Gutierrez, Pabon (Matamba), Garcia, Angel, Arango

FINAL – 2nd leg

AUG 30 - MEDELLIN (COLOMBIA)

NACIONAL 1 (Aristizabal)
GREMIO 1 (Dinho pen)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** S. Imperatore (Chi)
Att: 52,000.
Nacional: Higuita, Santa, Marulanda, Foronda, Mosquera, Arango, Serpa, Gutierrez, Garcia, Angel, Aristizabal.
Gremio: Danrlei, Arce, Rivarola, Adilson, Roger, Carlos Miguel, Dinho, Goiano, Arilson, Paulo Nunes, Jardel.
Gremio won 4-2 on agg (see article)

SUPER CUP

First round, 1st leg

SEPT 7 - ASUNCION (PARAGUAY)

OLIMPIA (Par) 1 (Monzon pen)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Fabbri)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Pereira da Silva (Bra).
Olimpia: Arbiza, Caceres, Fernandez, Chamas, Suarez, Ostolaza, Vidal Sanabria, Monzon, G. Gonzalez (Esteche 24), Fatecha (Moran 46).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Medero, Fabbri, Arruabarrena (Marcico 46), Peralta, Giunta, C. Gonzalez, Pico (Saldana 72), Martinez, Scotto, (Tchami 76).

SEPT 13 - SAO PAULO

SAO PAULO (Bra) 1 (Caio)
BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** J. Da Rosa (Uru).
Sao Paulo: Zetti, Rogerio, Gilmar, Bordon, Andre, Alemao, Donizete, Juninho, Denil-son, Palhinha (Amarildo), Caio (Pedro Luiz).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Gamboa, Fabbri, McAllister (Martinez), Saldana (Marcico), Peralta, Gonzalez, Pico, Tchami Scotto.

SEPT. 12 - BELO HORIZONTE (BRAZ)

CRUIZEIRO (Bra) 1 (Belleti)
COLO COLO (Chl) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** J. Castrilli (Arg).
Cruzeiro: Dida, Paulo Roberto, Vanderci, Rogerio, Nonato, Fabinho, Belleti (Ademir), Alberto, Marcelo (Luis Fernando), Paulinho, Roberto Gaucho.
Colo Colo: Marcelo Ramirez, Mendoza, Miguel Ramirez, Margas, Rojas, Espina (Illesca), Vargas, Ferraguchi, Etcheverry (Reyes), Basay, Vergara (Herrera).

SEPT 13 - AVELLANEDA (ARGENTINA)

INDEPENDIENTE (Arg) 1 (Alvez)
SANTOS (Bra) 1 (Jamelli)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** J. Matto (Uru).
Independiente: Mondragon, Ramirez, Rotchen, Arzeno, Jara (Cagna 60), Molina, Acuna (Alvez 84), Domizzi, Garnero (Burruchaga 60), Mazzoni, Carranza.
Santos: Edinho, Narciso, Marquinho, Gallo, Jean, Jamelli, Macos Andriano, Giovanni, Robert (Carlinhos 77), Pintado, Camanducaia (Wellington 90).

SEPT.13 - MONTEVIDEO (URUGUAY)

NACIONAL (Uru) 4 (O'Neill, Gonzalez, Lemos pen, Canobbio)
ESTUDIANTES DE LA PLATA (Arg) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** M. Sanchez (Chi)
Att: 4,000.
Nacional: Nichola, Milton Gomez, Dominquez, Kanapkis, Jare, Lemos, Abeijon (Badel 79), O'Neill (Parodi 79), Gigou, Canobbio (Carrasco 69), Gonzalez.
Estudiantes: Bossio, Almandez, Pratola, Fontana, Rojas, Cascini, Paris (Ramos 63), Veron (Lemma 63), Couceira, Romeo (Palacios 66), Calderon.

SEPT14 - BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)

VELEZ SARSFIELD (Arg) 2 (Trotta pen, Herrera)
FLAMENGO (Bra) 3 (Edmundo, Savio, Rodrigo pen)
HT:1-0. **Ref:** S. Imperatore (Chi)
Att: 15,000.
Velez Sarsfield: Chilavert, Zandona, Trotta, Pellegrino, Cardozo (Fernandez 80), Bas-ualdo, Compagnucci, Passedas (Sanchez 74), Rentera (Herrera 64), Asad, Flores.
Flamengo: Paulo Cesar, Agnaldo, Claudio, Ronaldao, Lira, Marcio Costo, Pingo, Jair (Rodrigo 69), Nelio, Edmundo, Savio.

SEPT.14 - MALDONADO (URUGUAY)

PENAROL (Uru) 2 (Pacheco, Romero)
RIVER PLATE (Arg) 3 (Cedres, Francescoli, Gallardo)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** E. Gonzalez (Par) **Att:** 10,000.
Penarol: Flores, Aguirregaray, Tais, Lima, De los Santos, Baltierra, Santos, Bengoechea (Rodriguez 65), Pacheco, Romero, Magallanes.
River Plate: Burgos, Rivarola, C. Avala, Corti, Altamirano, Diaz, Astrada, Gallardo (Garcia Aspe 79), Cedres, Francescoli, Ortega

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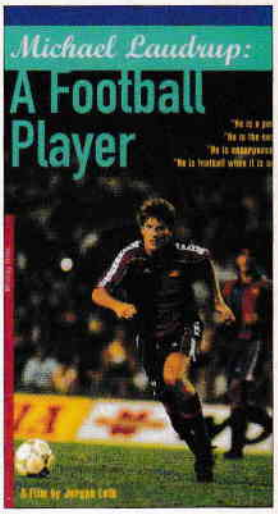

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SEPT.16 - MIAMI (UNITED STATES)

ARGENTINOS JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Ferreyra)
AT. NACIONAL (Col) 3 (Aristizabal, Mosquera, Alvarez)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Wilson Souza (Bra)
Att: 10,000
Argentinos Jnrs: Maltagliatti Fernandez, Pena, Schiavi, Ascensio, Batista, Cardinal, Gancedo (Lopez) 72, Mas, Ferreyra (Zermatten 63), Bennett.
Nacional: Higuita, Pavon, Alvarez, Foronda, Martinez, Gutierrez, Serna, Garcia, Aristizabal, Matamba, Angel (Mosquera 46).

SEPT. 20 - PORTO ALEGRE (BRAZIL)

GREMIO (Bra) 3 (Adilson, Jardel, Paulo Nunes)
RACING CLUB (Arg) 1 (Lopez)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** U. Aquino (Par).
Gremio: Danrlei, arce, Rivarola, Adilson, Roger, Dinho, Goiano, Mancini (Alexandre 46), Arilson, Paulo Nunes, Jardel.
Racing: Gonzalez, Reinoso, Costas, Ubeda, Viqueira, Faciutto (Galvan 85), Chacoma, Capria, Pompei (De Vicente 87), Delgado (Michelini 55), Lopez.
First round – three-team play-off

SEPT. 20 - BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)

BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Pico)
OLIMPIA (Par) 2 (M.Sanabria, Gonzalez)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** E. Gamboa (Chi).
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Gamboa, Fabbri, MacAllister, Saldana (Martinez 82), Peralta (Carrizo 46), Pico, Marcico (Vivas 69), Caniggia, Scotto.

ROUND-ROBIN STANDINGS:
OLIMPIA (pl.2) 4 pts, SAO PAULO (1) 3, BORA JUNIORS (3) 1.

First round, 2nd leg

SEPT.20 - LA PLATA (ARGENTINA)

ESTUDIANTES (Arg) 2 (Lamma, Ramos)
NACIONAL (Uru) 2 (Lemos, Canobbio)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** J. Arauko (Bra)
Estudiantes: Noguera, Ramos, Pratola, Fontana, Azconzaba, Lemma, Cascini, Cordoba (Neffa 66), Couceior, Ramos, Palacios
Nacional: Nicola, Canals, Gomez, Dominguez, Abeijon, O'Neil (66 Carrasco), Kanapkis, Lemos, Canobbio, Gonzalez, Guigon (Jara 72).
Nacional won 6-2 on agg

SEPT.21 - SANTIAGO (CHILE)

COLO COLO (Chi) 0
CRUZEIRO (Bra) 0
Ref: Francisco Lamolina (Arg) **Att:** 45,000
Colo Colo: Marcelo Ramirez, Mendoza, Marqas, Miguel Ramirez, Rojas (Illescas), Vargas, Espina, Estay, Etcheverry, (Vergara) Basay, Rubio.
Cruzeiro: Dida, Paulo Roberto, Vanderci, Rogerio, L. Fernando (Sotelo), Serginho, Belleti, Fabinho, Marcelo, Paulinho, Roberto Gaucho.
Cruzeiro won 1-0 on agg

CONCACAF CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Second round - 2nd leg

JUNE 9 - GUADALAJARA (MEXICO)

UA GUADALAJARA (Mex) 10
PROJUSA (Pan) 0
Guadalajara won 15-0 on agg

JUNE 14 - SAN SALVADOR (EL SALVADOR)

ALIANZA (ESr) 1 (Duran)
SAPRISSA (CR) 1 (Campos

HT: 1-0. **Att:** 400. **Ref:** A. Arzundia
Saprissa won 4-2 on agg

Third round - 1st leg

AUG.23 - GUADALAJARA (MEXICO)

UA GUADALAJARA 2 (Gonzalez, Gacia)
ALAJUELENSE (CR) 1 (Ledesma)

SEPT. 3 - SANTA ANA (EL SALVADOR)

FAS (ES) 2 (Bordon, H. Perez)
MUNICIPAL (Guat) 2 (Valencia, Longi)

Third round - 2nd leg

SEPT. 3 - SAN JOSE (COSTA RICA)

ALAJUELENSE (CR) 3 (Mullins, Ledesma, Lopez)
UA GUADALAJARA (Mex) 1 (Reina)
Aet, Alajuelense won 4-3 on agg

SEPT.10 - GUATELMALA

MUNICIPAL (Guat) 2 (Plata 2)
FAS (ES) 0
Municipal won 4-2 on agg

ARGENTINA

National A Division
opening championship

WEEK ENDING MONDAY AUGUST 28

SAN LORENZO 1 (Ruggeri 85)

DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 0

BELGRANO (CORDOBA) 1 (Spallina 52)
ESTUDIANTES 1 (Calderon 82)

VELEZ SARSFIELD 3 (Trotta pen, 3, Asad 23, Trotta 69)
RACING CLUB 2 (Capria 17, Fleita 73)

BOCA JUNIORS 2 (TCHAMI 45, VIVAS 69)
FC OESTE 2 (Mandrini 18, Vargas 85)

GIMNASIA Y ESGRIMA DE LA PLATA 0
PLATENSE 1 (Ruffini 72)

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 0
LANUS 1 (Simiontto 50)

INDEPENDIENTE 1 (Mazzoni 19)
ROSARIO CENTRAL 1 (Coudet 39)

COLON (Santa Fe) 3 (Uliambre 52, Saralegui 57, C. Garcia 90)
HURACAN 0

ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 0
GIMNASIA Y ESGRIMA DE JUJUY 0

WEEK ENDING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4

ESTUDIANTES DE LA PLATA 0
COLON (Santa Fe) 0

FERRO CARRIL OESTE 0
GIMNASIA LA PLATA 1 (Morant 89)

LANUS 1 (Gamboa og 68)
BOCA JUNIORS 1 (Fabbri 60)

HURACAN 0
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 1 (Mas 14)

DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 0
BELGRANO (Cordoba) 0

GIMNASIA JUJUY 4 (Trimarchi pen 15, Gorostidi 44, Lobo 76, Piaggio 82)
SAN LORENZO 3 (Biaggio 4, Netto 30, 87 pen)

RIVER PLATE 0
ROSARIO CENTRAL 0

ESTUDIANTES 0
VELEZ SARSFIELD 1 (Zandona 84)

PLATENSE 1 (Maisterra 88)
COLON (Santa Fe) 0

RACING CLUB 1 (P. Paz og 63)
BANFIELD 0

WEEK ENDING MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11

VELEZ 2 (Herrera 85, Trotta 89)
ESPANOL 3 (Castillo 40, 80, Benitez 74)

ROSARIO CENTRAL 1 (Da Silva 44)
RACING 3 (Lopez 45, Pomei 64, Delgado 87)

GIMNASIA LA PLATA 1 (F. Fernandez 82)
LANUS 0

ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 2 (Gancedo pen 27, Batista 65)
PLATENSE 3 (Fuertes 54, Erbin 56, Calcaterra 90)

SAN LORENZO 5 (Biaggio 2, E. Gonzalez 5, 28, Silas 74, Monserrat 86)
HURACAN 0

BELGRANO 0
GIMNASIA JUJUY 3 (Cuffaro Russo 74, Trimarchi 80, Gorostidi 85)

BANFIELD 1 (Cruz 88)
ESTUDIANTES 0

INDEPENDIENTE 0
RIVER PLATE 0

BOCA JUNIORS 1 (Caniggia 24)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 1 (Gabrich 80)

COLON (Santa Fe) 0
FERRO CARRIL OESTE 2 (Dura 42, 59)

WEEK ENDING MONDAY SEPT 25

PLATENSE 2 (D. Libera 32, Cangialosi 87)
SAN LORENZO 3 (Netto 19, Biaggio 55, Gonzalez 75)

GIMNASIA JUJUY 1 (Lobo 84)
VELEZ SARSFIELD 0

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 1 (Berti pen 7)
GIMNASIA LA PLATA 1 (Dopazo pen 17)

LANUS 1 (Morales 82)
COLON (Santa Fe) 1 (Toresani 81)

FC OESTE 0
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 0

HURACAN 2 (Barrios pen 35, Guerra 64)
BELGRANO 1 (Cattaneo 38)

ESTUDIANTES 1 (Calderon 34)
ROSARIO CENTRAL 2 (Sancehz 48, Falaschi 52)

RACING CLUB 1 (Delgado 25)
RIVER PLATE 1 (Almeyda 55)

BOCA JUNIORS 0
INDEPENDIENTE 0

DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 2 (Nunes 60, Meske og 91)
BANFIELD 2 (Rossi 30, Agoglia 79)

National A Division –
opening championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
San Lorenzo	7	4	1	2	13	9	13
Racing Club	7	4	1	2	10	6	13
River Plate	7	3	4	0	8	4	13
Gimnasia Jujuy	6	4	1	1	10	8	13
Velez Sarsfield	7	4	1	2	9	7	13
Lanus	7	3	3	1	7	5	12
Gimnasia Esgrima	7	2	4	1	6	5	10
Platense	7	3	1	3	8	8	10
Boca Juniors	6	2	4	0	7	5	10
Argentinos Jun	7	2	3	2	7	5	9
Dep.Espanol	7	1	5	1	6	6	8
Newell's OB	6	1	4	1	7	7	7
FC Oeste	7	1	4	2	7	7	7
Banfield	7	1	3	3	6	8	7
Rosario Central	7	1	4	2	5	7	7
Colon Santa Fe	7	1	3	3	4	5	6
Independiente	7	0	5	1	4	5	5
Huracan	7	1	2	4	6	15	5
Estudiantes	7	0	4	3	3	6	4
Belgrano	7	0	3	4	2	9	3

Relegation average (bottom) over three seasons: Dep. Espanol 0,902; Belgrano Cordoba 0.891; FC Oeste 0.879; Colon 0.714; Estudiantes 0.571.

BRAZIL

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
FIRST STAGE – GROUP A

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

VITORIA 2 BOTAFOGO 2

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

CORINTHIANS1 BRAGANTINO 2; PALMEIRAS 3 GUARANI 0; CRUZEIRO 0 JUVENTUDE 0; PARANA 2 GREMIO 0

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

BOTAFOGO 3 PAYSANDU 0; GUARANI 2 CORINTHIANS 1; BRAGANTINO 0 PALMEIRAS 2; JUVENTUDE 1 PARANA 2

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

PARANA 1 PALMEIRAS 0

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

BOTAFOGO 3 GUARANI 1; FLAMENGO 2 BRAGANTINO 1; CRUZEIRO 2 CORINTHIANS 0; JUVENTUDE 1 GREMIO 1; PAYSANDU 1 VITORIA 1

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

BRAGANTINO 1 BOTAFOGO 0; GUARANI 0 FLAMENGO 0; CORINTHIANS1 PARANA 1; PALMEIRAS 2 CRUZEIRO 3; VITORIA 2 GREMIO 0; PAYSANDU 2 JUVENTUDE 0

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

BOTAFOGO 2 CORINTHIANS 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

FLAMENGO 1 PALMEIRAS 2; GUARANI 1 PARANA 0; GREMIO 1 PAYSANDU 1

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

PAYSANDU 2 FLAMENGO 0; BRAGANTINO 2 CRUZEIRO 1; PALMEIRAS 2 BOTAFOGO 1

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

CORINTHIANS 2 FLAMENGO 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

JUVENTUDE 1 BRAGANTINO 1; GREMIO 2 GUARANI 1; CRUZEIRO 3 VITORIA 0

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

JUVENTUDE 0 VITORIA 0

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

GREMIO 2 BOTAFOGO 3

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

JUVENTUDE 0 FLAMENGO 2; CORINTHIANS 0 PALMEIRAS 2; GUARANI 3 BRAGANTINO 3; PAYSANDU 1 CRUZEIRO 3; VITORIA 3 PARANA 3

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

BOTAFOGO 0 JUVENTUDE 0; FLAMENGO 2 GREMIO 2; CORINTHIANS 3 VITORIA 0; PALMEIRAS 2 PAYSANDU 1; PARANA 0 BRAGANTINO 0

GROUP B

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19

SANTOS 1 GOIAS 1

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20

FLUMINENSE 1 CRICIUMA 0; SPORT 0 PORTUGUESA 0

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

BAHIA 0 FLUMINENSE 1

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

SANTOS 3 VASCO 5

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

UNIAO SAO JOAO 1 FLUMINENSE 3; SAO PAULO 1 ATLETICO 1; PORTUGUESA 2 GOIAS 1; INTERNACIONAL 2 CRICIUMA 2; BAHIA 1 SPORT 1

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

VASCO 1 UNIAO SAO JOAO 0; FLUMINENSE 1 SANTOS 0; GOIAS 0 SAO PAULO 0; ATLETICO 2 PORTUGUESA 2; INTERNACIONAL 2 BAHIA 1; CRICIUMA 1 SPORT 0

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

SAO PAULO 1 FLUMINENSE 1

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

PORTUGUESA 3 VASCO 3; SANTOS 1 CRICIUMA 0; UNIAO SAO JOAO 0 INTERNACIONAL 1; BAHIA 2 ATLETICO 0; SPORT 2 GOIAS 3

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

SAO PAULO 2 UNIAO SAO JOAO 0; VASCO 0 FLUMINENSE 0; INTERNACIONAL 4 SANTOS 2; ATLETICO 0 SPORT 0; GOIAS 2 BAHIA 0

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

ATLETICO 1 SANTOS 2

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

VASCO 1 SAO PAULO 0; FLUMINENSE 0 PORTUGUESA 1; GOIAS 3 UNIAO SAO JOAO 0; SPORT 2 INTERNACIONAL 0; BAHIA 0 CRICIUMA 0

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 13

VASCO 0 INTERNACIONAL 2; UNIAO SAO JOAO 0 ATLETICO 2

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

BAHIA 0 SAO PAULO 0; PORTUGUESA 0 SANTOS 2

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

SPORT 1 VASCO 0; CRICIUMA 1 UNIAO SAO JOAO 1

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

VASCO 2 BAHIA 3; FLUMINENSE 2 SPORT 0; SANTOS 0 SAO PAULO 1; UNIAO SAO JOAO 2 PORTUGUESA 0; CRICIUMA 2 ATLETICO 0; INTERNATIONAL 1 GOIAS 1

STANDINGS

Group A: 1) Palmeiras 19 pts; 2) Botafogo 17; 3) Cruzeiro 16; 4) Bragantino 15; 5) Parana 12; 6) Paysandu 9; 7) Guarani, Flamengo, Vitoria, Corinthians, Juventude 8; 12) Gremio 6.

Group B: 1) Fluminense, Internacional PA 17; 3) Santos, Goias 13; 5) Criciuma, Sao Paulo, Portuguesa 12; 8) Vasco da Gama, Bahia 11; 10) Sport 9; 11) Atletico Mineiro 7; 12) Uniao Sao Joao 4.

URUGUAY

First Division – closing championship

1) Penarol, Rampla Juniors 14 pts; 3) Nacional, **River Plate 12; 5) Liverpool 10; 6) Cerro**, Defensor Sporting 9; 8) Central Espanol, Progeso 8;10) Wanderers, Danubio, Sudamerca 7; 13) Basanez 6.

PERU

National Championship

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Cristal	26	17	5	4	65	25	56
Alianza Lima	26	18	1	7	47	20	55
Universitario	26	16	6	4	48	24	54
Cienciano	26	15	5	6	35	26	50
FBC Melgar	26	13	6	7	38	32	45
Deportivo Sipesa	26	11	9	6	45	20	42
Dep. Municipal	26	11	7	8	41	33	40
Dep.San Agustin	26	9	7	10	34	36	34
Sport Boys	26	8	8	10	28	28	32
Ciclista Lima	26	7	9	10	28	39	30
Aurich Canana	26	6	10	10	33	42	28
Alianza Atletico	26	8	4	13	30	50	28
Union Minas	26	7	5	14	31	49	26
Union Huaral	26	5	7	14	24	40	22
Leon Huanuco	26	4	5	17	14	46	17
Atletico Torino	26	2	8	16	12	45	14

PARAGUAY

First Division - First round (final)

1) Olimpia 27 pts; 2) Cerro Porteno 24; 3) Nacional, Sportivo Luquenco, Humaita 17; 6) Libertad 13; 7) San Loenzo, Cerro Cora, Colagiales 12; 10) Sol de America, Guarani 11; 12) Sp.Colombia 9; 13) Presidente Hayes 8.

COLOMBIA

First Division – opening tournament

Group A: 1) Millonarios, Deportivo Cali 13pts; 3) Tolima 11; 4) Union Magdalena, Caldas 8; 6) Bucaramanga 7; 7) Quindio 5; 8) Independiente Medellin 1.

Group B: 1) Junior Barranquilla, America Cali, Nacional Medellin 11;4) Santa Fe, Huila 8; 6) Envigado 7; 7) Cortulua 5; 8) Pereira 3.

CHILE

First Division

1) Colo Colo 40 pts;2) Universidad de Chile 29; 3) Universidad Catolica 36; 4) Cobreloa 32; 5) Temuco 31; 6) O'Higgins 29; 7) Concepcion 24; 8) Coquimbo Unido, Osorno 23; 10) Union Espanola, Atacama 22; 12) Antofagasta (pl. one less), Palestino 21; 14) Everton (pl. one less), La Serena, Huachicato 18.

ECUADOR

First Division – (2nd stage)

Group 1: 1) Nacional, Barcelona 17 pts; 3) Green Cross 13; 4) Liga Dep. de Quito 12; 5) Delfin 4; 6) Dep.Quito 2.

Group 2: 1) Espoli 16; 2) Aucas 14; 3) Emelec 13; 4) Olmedo 10; 5) Portoviejo Univ. 6; 6) 9 de Octubre 2.

BOLIVIA

National Championship – (2nd stage)

Group A: 1) Bolivar, Guabira 15 pts; 3) Real Santa Cruz 10; 4) Jorge Wilsterman 8; 5) Stormers 7; 6) Blooming 1.

Group B: 1) Independiente Petrolero, Destroyers 12; 3) San Jose 11; 4) Oriente Petrolero 9; 5) The Strongest 6; 6) Ciclon 4.

MEXICO

First Division

Group 1: 1) Univ. Nuevo Leon 9 pts; 2) Veracruz 6; 3) Guadalajara, Santos 5; 5) Toluca 4.

Group 2: 1) Celaya, America 9; 3) Atlante 4; 4) Puebla 3; 5) Morelia 1.

Group 3: 1) Leon 11; 2) Cruz Azul 8; 3) Univ. Aut. Mexico 6; 4) Monterrey 3.

Group 4: 1) Atlas 11; 2) Necaxa B; 3) Univ. Aut. Guadalajara 5; 4) Toros Neza 3.

COSTA RICA

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saprissa	4	4	0	0	11	1	12
Alajuelense	4	3	1	0	8	5	10
Puntarenas	4	3	0	1	5	2	9
Turrialba	4	2	1	1	8	6	7
Belen	4	2	1	1	7	5	7
Perez Zeledon	4	1	2	1	5	4	5
San Ramon	4	1	1	2	6	4	4
Carmelita	4	0	4	0	7	7	4
Cartagines	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
Guanacaste	4	0	1	3	3	9	1
Herediano	4	0	1	3	1	7	1
San Carlos	4	0	1	3	2	9	1

EL SALVADOR

First Division

1) FAS 9 pts; 2) Aguila 6; 3) ADET 5; 4) Municipal Limeno, Dragon,El Roble 4; 7) Luis A. Firpo, Marte, Alianza 3; 10) Tuburones 2.

HONDURAS

First Division

1) Motagua 6 pts; 2) Marathon, Victoria 4; 4) Independiente, Platense 3; 6) Real Maya, Olimpia 2; 8) Broncos, Vida 1; 10) Real Espana 0.

GUATEMALA

First Division

1) Comunicaciones 9 pts; 2) Aurora, Amatitlan 7;) Municipal, Mictlan 6; 6) Tally Juca, Xelaju, Escuintla 5; 9) Coban Imperial, Sacachispas 4; 11) Suchitepequez 3; 12) Izabal I.

ALL-AFRICA GAMES

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

First Round

Sierra Leone walkover v Liberia withdrew

Lesotho walkover v Botswana withdrew

Second Round

Algeria v Tunisia 1-0; 1-1
(Algeria won 2-1 on agg)

Senegal v Mali 0-0; 2-1
(Senegal won 2-1 on agg)

Sierra Leone withdrew v Guinea walkover

Niger withdrew v Ghana walkover

Ivory Coast v Nigeria 0-1; 0-2
(Nigeria won 3-0 on agg)

Cameroon walkover v Burundi withdrew

Congo v Zaire 4-2; Zaire withdrew from 2nd leg

Kenya withdrew v Sudan walkover

South Africa v Lesotho 2-0; 1-0
(SA won 3-0 on agg)

Malawi v Zambia 1-0; 0-2
(Zambia won 2-1 on agg)

Madagascar withdrew v Mauritius walkover

Third Round

(1st leg: May 12-14; 2nd leg: May 26-28)

Guinea v Senegal 1-0; 0-0
(Guinea won 1-0 on agg)

(Ghana withdrew v Nigeria walkover

Cameroon v Congo 1-0; 0-2
(Congo won 2-1 on agg)

Egypt walkover v Sudan withdrew

South Africa v Zambia 0-2; 1-0
(Zambia won 2-1 on agg)

FINAL TOURNAMENT

Group A (Harare)

Sep 10: Zimbabwe 2 Egypt 1; Congo 3 Zambia 3.

Sep 14: Congo 0 Egypt 2; Zimbabwe 0 Zambia 2.

Sep 17: Egypt 1 Zambia 0; Zimbabwe 2 Congo 1.

Final Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt	3	2	1	0	4	2	6
Zimbabwe	3	2	0	1	4	4	6
Zambia	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Congo	3	0	1	2	4	7	1

Group B (Bulwayo)

Sep 11: Algeria 0 Nigeria 2; Guinea 1 Mauritius 1.

Sep 15: Guinea 1 Nigeria 0; Algeria 2 Mauritius 0.

Sep 18: Mauritius 0 Nigeria 2; Algeria 0 Guinea 2.

Final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Guinea	3	2	1	0	4	1	7
Nigeria	3	2	0	1	4	1	6
Algeria	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
Mauritius	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

Semi-finals (Harare)

Sep 21: Egypt 1 Nigeria 0

Sep 21: Zimbabwe 3 Guinea 0

3rd Place Play-off (Harare)

Sep 23: Guinea 1 Nigeria 1 *(Nigeria won 4-1 on pens)*

Final (Harare)

Sep 23: Zimbabwe 1 Egypt 3

SOUTH AFRICA

NSL CASTLE LEAGUE

AUGUST 19

KAIZER CHIEFS 0
CAPE TOWN SPURS 0

AUGUST 30

AMAZULU 1 (Kombela 54)
QWAQWA STARS 1 (M Tsotetsi 33)

MANNING RANGERS 1 (Malesela 20)
AFRICAN WANDERERS 1 (Behr 5)

RABALI BLACKPOOL 0
ORLANDO PIRATES0

WITBANK ACES 2 (Biyela 2)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 1 (Vries)

WITS UNIVERSITY 0
UMTATA BUCKS 3 (Donnelly 16, Wilfred Mugeyi 72 Rula 88)

AUGUST 31

REAL ROVERS 3 (Sibiya 3)
VAAL PROS 2 (Marumo, Shabani)

SEPTEMBER 1

CAPE TOWN SPURS 2 (Ramasike 47, Modise 75)
JOMO COSMOS 3 (Sekano 44, 97, Malete 73)

SEPTEMBER 2

ORLANDO PIRATES 1 (Mkhalele 56)
AMAZULU 1 (Dyers 6)

SEPTEMBER 3

AFRICAN WANS 2 (Phuka 30, Blose 63)
KAIZER CHIEFS 0

BLOEMFONTEIN C 3 (Maboe 2, Skosana)
MANNING RANGERS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 2 (Mudau 44, Moosa 77)
RABALI BLACKPOOL 2 (Moalusi 57, Makhubela 66)

MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Pillay 28)
REAL ROVERS 2 (Baloyi 22, Sibiya 44)

QWAQWA STARS 0
WITBANK ACES 0

UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Leepo 88)
HELLENIC 0

VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Vumisa 87)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Suchard 55)

SEPTEMBER 6

JOMO COSMOS 0
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 2 (Mudau 44, Moosa 77)
RABALI BLACKPOOL 2 (Moalusi 57, Makhubela 66)

MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Pillay 28)
REAL ROVERS 2 (Baloyi 22, Sibiya 44)

QWAQWA STARS 0
WITBANK ACES 0

UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Leepo 88)
HELLENIC 0

VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Vumisa 87)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Suchard 55)

SEPTEMBER 6

JOMO COSMOS 0
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 3 (Mudau 37, R Molefe 66, 71)
MANNING RANGERS 1 (Reed 73)

SEPTEMBER 8

HELLENIC 2 (Young 25, Solomons 73)
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Pitso 44)

WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Ewen 85)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0

SEPTEMBER 9

KAIZER CHIEFS 3 (Mthethwa 55, Lebese 61, Mooki 74)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 0

RABALI BLACKPOOL 0
UMTATA BUCKS 0

SEPTEMBER 10

AMAZULU 0
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 3 (Mudau 3)

JOMO COSMOS 2 (Sekano, Sapula)
AFRICAN WANDERS 1 (Phuka)

REAL ROVERS 2 (Mola, Sibiya)
CAPE TOWN SPURS 0

SEPTEMBER 12

REAL ROVERS 2 (Raphalela 35, 60)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Ngandu 85)

SEPTEMBER 15

CAPE TOWN SPURS 3 (Lupiya 7, 79, Modise 29)
WITS UNIVERSITY 0

SEPTEMBER 16

MANNING RANGERS 1 (Muir 16)
KAIZER CHIEFS 1 (Tshisevhe 72)

ORLANDO PIRATES 3 (Silent 27, Maponyane 30, Mkhalele 76)
WITBANK ACES 0

SEPTEMBER 17

AFRICAN WANDERERS 3 (Phuka 42, 47, Blose 70)
REAL ROVERS 1 (Sigiya 19)

BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 1 (Setae 82)
JOMO COSMOS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWS 0
QWAQWA STARS 0

MOROKA SWALLOWS 2 (Hendricks 4, 79)
HELLENIC 2 (Young 30, Solomons 71)

UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Brown 70)
AMAZULU 0

RABALI BLACKPOOL 3 (Makhubela 20, 89, Mukansi 60)
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Mnguni 67)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cape Town Spurs	29	17	8	4	46	19	59
Mamelodi Suns	28	16	8	4	35	16	56
Kaizer Chiefs	28	14	9	5	38	16	51
Orlando Pirates	26	13	9	4	36	17	48
Hellenic	28	13	6	9	45	35	45
QwaQwa Stars	28	12	9	7	35	30	45
Umtata Bucks	29	12	7	10	39	36	43
Vaal Pros	29	11	9	9	34	31	42
Jomo Cosmos	29	10	10	9	31	30	40
Real Rovers	29	10	7	12	42	48	37
Wits University	29	9	7	13	31	40	34
Amazulu	29	7	12	10	34	45	33
Witbank Aces	28	8	5	15	34	48	29
Bloemfontein C.	29	7	8	14	28	34	29
Moroka Swallows	28	6	10	12	29	40	28
Manning Rangers	27	6	8	13	29	37	26
African Wands.	29	5	9	15	33	52	24
Rabali Blackpool	29	4	10	15	29	54	16

BOB SAVE SUPER BOWL

FIRST ROUND

HELLENIC 2 (Stober 36, 44)
ROCKRIDGE 0

MANNING R 2 (Nzimande 6, Roberts 42)
CRYSTAL BRAINS 0

CAPE TOWN SPURS 1 (Lupiya 65)
UMTATA BUCKS 0

DYNAMOS 3 (Steenkamp 30, 103, Ratshivhadelo 92)
BATTSWOOD 1 (Da Rocha 17) *Aet*

KAIZER CHIEFS 2 (Kungwane 25, Mthethwa 59)
WITBANK ACES 0

MORNING STARS 2 (Ntoni 2)
SWARAJ 3 (Kuni, D Naidoo, Vassen pen)

MIGHTY CHAPS 0
PRETORIA CITY 4 (Shaw 2, Inskip, Jordaan)

RABALI BLACKPOOL 2 (Maringa 60, Moalusi 102)

AMAZULU 1 (Lubombo 20) *Aet*

ARCADIA 0
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 4 (R Molefe 56, Masilela 73, Mudau 79, 82)

BLOEMFONTEIN YOUNG TIGERS 0
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 5 (Arries 53, Jackson 2, Skosana 68, 73, 84)

LEICESTER CITY 0
JOMO COSMOS 1 (Sekano 65)

MATROOSFONTEIN 1 (Daniels 8)
REBELS FC (Bhengu 43)
Aet, Matroosfontein won 4-3 on pens

MOROKA SWALLOWS 3 (Pillay 35, Tshabalala 43, 68)
AFRICAN WANDERERS 0

QWAQWA STARS 0
ORLANDO PIRATES 0
Aet, QwaQwa Stars won 3-1 on pens

REAL ROVERS 1 (Sithole 75)
WITS UNIVERSITY 0

VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Seakamela 72)
PARK UNITED 2 (Classen 3, Buys 12)

WORLD MILITARY CUP

(In Italy)
Quarter-finals: France 2 Egypt 1 (*sudden death*), Cyprus 2 Italy 1, S Korea 4 Holland 1, Iran 3 Morocco 2.
Semi-finals: France 2 Cyprus 0, Iran 2 S Korea 2 (*Iran won 5-3 on pens*).
3rd place: S Korea 1 Cyprus 0.
Final: France 1 Iran 0.

UNIVERSIAD

(In Japan)
3rd place: Russia 3 Ukraine 1.
Final: Japan 2 S Korea 0.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING

AFRICAN zone (preliminary round)

Burundi walkover v Djibouti withdrew

Lesotho v Namibia 1-0; 0-3
(Namibia won 3-1 on agg)

Burkina Faso walkover v Guinea Bissau withdrew

First Round

Group One

Nigeria v Kenya 0-0; 3-0
(Nigeria won 3-0 on agg)

Egypt v Mauritius 1-0; 1-0
(Egypt won 2-0 on agg)

Zimbabwe v Malawi 4-0; 0-0
(Zimbabwe won 4-0 on agg)

Group Two

Mali v Togo 1-2; 0-1 *(Togo won 3-1 on agg)*

Tunisia v Burkina Faso 4-1; 0-1
(Tunisia won 4-2 on agg)

Morocco v Senegal 0-0; 0-1
(Senegal won 1-0 on agg)

Algeria v Guinea 1-1; 0-2
(Guinea won 3-1 on agg)

Group Three

Ghana walkover v Congo withdrew

South Africa v Burundi 1-1; 1-4
(Burundi won 5-2 on agg)

Gabon v Angola 1-3; 0-2
(Angola won 5-1 on agg)

Cameroon v Namibia 0-0; 1-0
(Aet, Cameroon won 1-0 on agg)

Second Round

(1st leg: 11-13 Aug; 2nd leg: 25-27 Aug)

Group One

Nigeria v Egypt 3-2; 1-1
(Nigeria won 4-3 on agg)

Zimbabwe v Zambia 1-1; 2-1
(Zimbabwe won 3-2 on agg)

Group Two

Senegal v Guinea 2-3; 0-2
(Guinea won 5-2 on agg)

Tunisia v Togo 1-1; 1-2
(Togo won 3-2 on agg)

Group Three

Burundi v Cameroon 1-0; 0-2
(Cameroon won 2-1 on agg)

Ghana v Angola 3-1; 0-1
(Ghana won 3-2 on agg)

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CHILE

First Division

1) Colo Colo 40 pts;2) Universidad de Chile 29; 3) Universidad Catolica 36; 4) Cobreloa 32; 5) Temuco 31; 6) O'Higgins 29; 7) Concepcion 24; 8) Coquimbo Unido, Osorno 23; 10) Union Espanola, Atacama 22; 12) Antofagasta (pl. one less), Palestino 21; 14) Everton (pl. one less), La Serena, Huachicato 18.

ECUADOR

First Division – (2nd stage)

Group 1: 1) Nacional, Barcelona 17 pts; 3) Green Cross 13; 4) Liga Dep. de Quito 12; 5) Delfin 4; 6) Dep.Quito 2.

Group 2: 1) Espoli 16; 2) Aucas 14; 3) Emelec 13; 4) Olmedo 10; 5) Portoviejo Univ. 6; 6) 9 de Octubre 2.

BOLIVIA

National Championship – (2nd stage)

Group A: 1) Bolivar, Guabira 15 pts; 3) Real Santa Cruz 10; 4) Jorge Wilsterman 8; 5) Stormers 7; 6) Blooming 1.

Group B: 1) Independiente Petrolero, Destroyers 12; 3) San Jose 11; 4) Oriente Petrolero 9; 5) The Strongest 6; 6) Ciclon 4.

MEXICO

First Division

Group 1: 1) Univ. Nuevo Leon 9 pts; 2) Veracruz 6; 3) Guadalajara, Santos 5; 5) Toluca 4.

Group 2: 1) Celaya, America 9; 3) Atlante 4; 4) Puebla 3; 5) Morelia 1.

Group 3: 1) Leon 11; 2) Cruz Azul 8; 3) Univ. Aut. Mexico 6; 4) Monterrey 3.

Group 4: 1) Atlas 11; 2) Necaxa B; 3) Univ. Aut. Guadalajara 5; 4) Toros Neza 3.

COSTA RICA

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saprissa	4	4	0	0	11	1	12
Alajuelense	4	3	1	0	8	5	10
Puntarenas	4	3	0	1	5	2	9
Turrialba	4	2	1	1	8	6	7
Belen	4	2	1	1	7	5	7
Perez Zeledon	4	1	2	1	5	4	5
San Ramon	4	1	1	2	6	4	4
Carmelita	4	0	4	0	7	7	4
Cartagines	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
Guanacaste	4	0	1	3	3	9	1
Herediano	4	0	1	3	1	7	1
San Carlos	4	0	1	3	2	9	1

EL SALVADOR

First Division

1) FAS 9 pts; 2) Aguila 6; 3) ADET 5; 4) Municipal Limeno, Dragon,El Roble 4; 7) Luis A. Firpo, Marte, Alianza 3; 10) Tuburones 2.

HONDURAS

First Division

1) Motagua 6 pts; 2) Marathon, Victoria 4; 4) Independiente, Platense 3; 6) Real Maya, Olimpia 2; 8) Broncos, Vida 1; 10) Real Espana 0.

GUATEMALA

First Division

1) Comunicaciones 9 pts; 2) Aurora, Amatitlan 7; 3) Municipal, Mictlan 6; 6) Tally Juca, Xelaju, Escuintla 5; 9) Coban Imperial, Sacachispas 4; 11) Suchitepequez 3; 12) Izabal 1.

ALL-AFRICA GAMES

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

First Round

Sierra Leone walkover v Liberia withdrew

Lesotho walkover v Botswana withdrew

Second Round

Algeria v Tunisia 1-0; 1-1
(Algeria won 2-1 on agg)

Senegal v Mali 0-0; 2-1
(Senegal won 2-1 on agg)

Sierra Leone withdrew v Guinea walkover

Niger withdrew v Ghana walkover

Ivory Coast v Nigeria 0-1; 0-2
(Nigeria won 3-0 on agg)

Cameroon walkover v Burundi withdrew

Congo v Zaire 4-2; Zaire withdrew from 2nd leg

Kenya withdrew v Sudan walkover

South Africa v Lesotho 2-0; 1-0
(SA won 3-0 on agg)

Malawi v Zambia 1-0; 0-2
(Zambia won 2-1 on agg)

Madagascar withdrew v Mauritius walkover

Third Round

(1st leg: May 12-14; 2nd leg: May 26-28)

Guinea v Senegal 1-0; 0-0
(Guinea won 1-0 on agg)

(Ghana withdrew v Nigeria walkover

Cameroon v Congo 1-0; 0-2
(Congo won 2-1 on agg)

Egypt walkover v Sudan withdrew

South Africa v Zambia 0-2; 1-0
(Zambia won 2-1 on agg)

FINAL TOURNAMENT

Group A (Harare)

Sep 10: Zimbabwe 2 Egypt 1; Congo 3 Zambia 3.

Sep 14: Congo 0 Egypt 2; Zimbabwe 0 Zambia 2.

Sep 17: Egypt 1 Zambia 0; Zimbabwe 2 Congo 1.

Final Standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt	3	2	1	0	4	2	6
Zimbabwe	3	2	0	1	4	4	6
Zambia	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Congo	3	0	1	2	4	7	1

Group B (Bulwayo)

Sep 11: Algeria 0 Nigeria 2; Guinea 1 Mauritius 1.

Sep 15: Guinea 1 Nigeria 0; Algeria 2 Mauritius 0.

Sep 18: Mauritius 0 Nigeria 2; Algeria 0 Guinea 2.

Final standings

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Guinea	3	2	1	0	4	1	7
Nigeria	3	2	0	1	4	1	6
Algeria	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
Mauritius	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

Semi-finals (Harare)

Sep 21: Egypt 1 Nigeria 0

Sep 21: Zimbabwe 3 Guinea 0

3rd Place Play-off (Harare)

Sep 23: Guinea 1 Nigeria 1 *(Nigeria won 4-1 on pens)*

Final (Harare)

Sep 23: Zimbabwe 1 Egypt 3

SOUTH AFRICA

NSL CASTLE LEAGUE

AUGUST 19

KAIZER CHIEFS 0
CAPE TOWN SPURS 0

AUGUST 30

AMAZULU 1 (Kombela 54)
QWAQWA STARS 1 (M Tsotetsi 33)

MANNING RANGERS 1 (Malesela 20)
AFRICAN WANDERERS 1 (Behr 5)

RABALI BLACKPOOL 0
ORLANDO PIRATES0

WITBANK ACES 2 (Biyela 2)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 1 (Vries)

WITS UNIVERSITY 0
UMTATA BUCKS 3 (Donnelly 16, Wilfred Mugeyi 72 Rula 88)

AUGUST 31

REAL ROVERS 3 (Sibiya 3)
VAAL PROS 2 (Marumo, Shabani)

SEPTEMBER 1

CAPE TOWN SPURS 2 (Ramasike 47, Modise 75)
JOMO COSMOS 3 (Sekano 44, 97, Malete 73)

SEPTEMBER 2

ORLANDO PIRATES 1 (Mkhalele 56)
AMAZULU 1 (Dyers 6)

SEPTEMBER 3

AFRICAN WANS 2 (Phuka 30, Blose 63)
KAIZER CHIEFS 0

BLOEMFONTEIN C 3 (Maboe 2, Skosana)
MANNING RANGERS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 2 (Mudau 44, Moosa 77)
RABALI BLACKPOOL 2 (Moalusi 57, Makhubela 66)

MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Pillay 28)
REAL ROVERS 2 (Baloyi 22, Sibiya 44)

QWAQWA STARS 0
WITBANK ACES 0

UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Leepo 88)
HELLENIC 0

VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Vumisa 87)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Suchard 55)

SEPTEMBER 6

JOMO COSMOS 0
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 2 (Mudau 44, Moosa 77)
RABALI BLACKPOOL 2 (Moalusi 57, Makhubela 66)

MOROKA SWALLOWS 1 (Pillay 28)
REAL ROVERS 2 (Baloyi 22, Sibiya 44)

QWAQWA STARS 0
WITBANK ACES 0

UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Leepo 88)
HELLENIC 0

VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Vumisa 87)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Suchard 55)

SEPTEMBER 6

JOMO COSMOS 0
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWS 3 (Mudau 37, R Molefe 66, 71)
MANNING RANGERS 1 (Reed 73)

SEPTEMBER 8

HELLENIC 2 (Young 25, Solomons 73)
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Pitso 44)

WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Ewen 85)
MOROKA SWALLOWS 0

SEPTEMBER 9

KAIZER CHIEFS 3 (Mthethwa 55, Lebese 61, Mooki 74)
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 0

RABALI BLACKPOOL 0
UMTATA BUCKS 0

SEPTEMBER 10

AMAZULU 0
MAMELODI SUNDOWNS 3 (Mudau 3)

JOMO COSMOS 2 (Sekano, Sapula)
AFRICAN WANDERS 1 (Phuka)

REAL ROVERS 2 (Mola, Sibiya)
CAPE TOWN SPURS 0

SEPTEMBER 12

REAL ROVERS 2 (Raphalela 35, 60)
WITS UNIVERSITY 1 (Ngandu 85)

SEPTEMBER 15

CAPE TOWN SPURS 3 (Lupiya 7, 79, Modise 29)
WITS UNIVERSITY 0

SEPTEMBER 16

MANNING RANGERS 1 (Muir 16)
KAIZER CHIEFS 1 (Tshisevhe 72)

ORLANDO PIRATES 3 (Silent 27, Maponyane 30, Mkhalele 76)
WITBANK ACES 0

SEPTEMBER 17

AFRICAN WANDERERS 3 (Phuka 42, 47, Blose 70)
REAL ROVERS 1 (Sigiya 19)

BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 1 (Setae 82)
JOMO COSMOS 0

MAMELODI SUNDOWS 0
QWAQWA STARS 0

MOROKA SWALLOWS 2 (Hendricks 4, 79)
HELLENIC 2 (Young 30, Solomons 71)

UMTATA BUCKS 1 (Brown 70)
AMAZULU 0

RABALI BLACKPOOL 3 (Makhubela 20, 89, Mukansi 60)
VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Mnguni 67)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
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Orlando Pirates	26	13	9	4	36	17	48
Hellenic	28	13	6	9	45	35	45
QwaQwa Stars	28	12	9	7	35	30	45
Umtata Bucks	29	12	7	10	39	36	43
Vaal Pros	29	11	9	9	34	31	42
Jomo Cosmos	29	10	10	9	31	30	40
Real Rovers	29	10	7	12	42	48	37
Wits University	29	9	7	13	31	40	34
Amazulu	29	7	12	10	34	45	33
Witbank Aces	28	8	5	15	34	48	29
Bloemfontein C.	29	7	8	14	28	34	29
Moroka Swallows	28	6	10	12	29	40	28
Manning Rangers	27	6	8	13	29	37	26
African Wands.	29	5	9	15	33	52	24
Rabali Blackpool	29	4	10	15	29	54	16

BOB SAVE SUPER BOWL

FIRST ROUND

HELLENIC 2 (Stober 36, 44)
ROCKRIDGE 0

MANNING R 2 (Nzimande 6, Roberts 42)
CRYSTAL BRAINS 0

CAPE TOWN SPURS 1 (Lupiya 65)
UMTATA BUCKS 0

DYNAMOS 3 (Steenkamp 30, 103, Ratshivhadelo 92)
BATTSWOOD 1 (Da Rocha 17) *Aet*

KAIZER CHIEFS 2 (Kungwane 25, Mthethwa 59)
WITBANK ACES 0

MORNING STARS 2 (Ntoni 2)
SWARAJ 3 (Kuni, D Naidoo, Vassen pen)

MIGHTY CHAPS 0
PRETORIA CITY 4 (Shaw 2, Inskip, Jordaan)

RABALI BLACKPOOL 2 (Maringa 60, Moalusi 102)
AMAZULU 1 (Lubombo 20) *Aet*

ARCADIA 0
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BLOEMFONTEIN YOUNG TIGERS 0
BLOEMFONTEIN CELTIC 5 (Arries 53, Jackson 2, Skosana 68, 73, 84)

LEICESTER CITY 0
JOMO COSMOS 1 (Sekano 65)

MATROOSFONTEIN 1 (Daniels 8)
REBELS FC (Bhengu 43)
Aet, Matroosfontein won 4-3 on pens

MOROKA SWALLOWS 3 (Pillay 35, Tshabalala 43, 68)
AFRICAN WANDERERS 0

QWAQWA STARS 0
ORLANDO PIRATES 0
Aet, QwaQwa Stars won 3-1 on pens

REAL ROVERS 1 (Sithole 75)
WITS UNIVERSITY 0

VAAL PROFESSIONALS 1 (Seakamela 72)
PARK UNITED 2 (Classen 3, Buys 12)

WORLD MILITARY CUP

(In Italy)
Quarter-finals: France 2 Egypt 1 *(sudden death)*, Cyprus 2 Italy 1, S Korea 4 Holland 1, Iran 3 Morocco 2.
Semi-finals: France 2 Cyprus 0, Iran 2 S Korea 2 *(Iran won 5-3 on pens)*.
3rd place: S Korea 1 Cyprus 0.
Final: France 1 Iran 0.

UNIVERSIAD

(In Japan)
3rd place: Russia 3 Ukraine 1.
Final: Japan 2 S Korea 0.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING

AFRICAN zone (preliminary round)

Burundi walkover v Djibouti withdrew

Lesotho v Namibia 1-0; 0-3
(Namibia won 3-1 on agg)

Burkina Faso walkover v Guinea Bissau withdrew

First Round

Group One

Nigeria v Kenya 0-0; 3-0
(Nigeria won 3-0 on agg)

Egypt v Mauritius 1-0; 1-0
(Egypt won 2-0 on agg)

Zimbabwe v Malawi 4-0; 0-0
(Zimbabwe won 4-0 on agg)

Group Two

Mali v Togo 1-2; 0-1 *(Togo won 3-1 on agg)*

Tunisia v Burkina Faso 4-1; 0-1
(Tunisia won 4-2 on agg)

Morocco v Senegal 0-0; 0-1
(Senegal won 1-0 on agg)

Algeria v Guinea 1-1; 0-2
(Guinea won 3-1 on agg)

Group Three

Ghana walkover v Congo withdrew

South Africa v Burundi 1-1; 1-4
(Burundi won 5-2 on agg)

Gabon v Angola 1-3; 0-2
(Angola won 5-1 on agg)

Cameroon v Namibia 0-0; 1-0
(Aet, Cameroon won 1-0 on agg)

Second Round

(1st leg: 11-13 Aug; 2nd leg: 25-27 Aug)

Group One

Nigeria v Egypt 3-2; 1-1
(Nigeria won 4-3 on agg)

Zimbabwe v Zambia 1-1; 2-1
(Zimbabwe won 3-2 on agg)

Group Two

Senegal v Guinea 2-3; 0-2
(Guinea won 5-2 on agg)

Tunisia v Togo 1-1; 1-2
(Togo won 3-2 on agg)

Group Three

Burundi v Cameroon 1-0; 0-2
(Cameroon won 2-1 on agg)

Ghana v Angola 3-1; 0-1
(Ghana won 3-2 on agg)

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1996 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

● *Group winners & six best second-placed teams qualify for finals. Remaining two second-placed teams play-off for the 15th place in the finals: one match, neutral venue. The 16th team, England, qualify as hosts.*

NOTE: *In deciding the best second-placed teams, ONLY their records against the teams finishing first, third and fourth in their group are taken into account.*

GROUP 1

04.09.94	Israel v Poland	2-1
07.09.94	Slovakia v France	0-0
07.09.94	Romania v Azerbaijan	3-0
08.10.94	France v Romania	0-0
12.10.94	Israel v Slovakia	2-2
12.10.94	Poland v Azerbaijan	1-0
12.11.94	Romania v Slovakia	3-2
16.11.94	Poland v France	0-0
16.11.94	Azerbaijan v Israel	0-2
13.12.94	Azerbaijan v France	0-2
14.12.94	Israel v Romania	1-1
29.03.95	Romania v Poland	2-1
29.03.95	Israel v France	0-0
29.03.95	Slovakia v Azerbaijan	4-1
25.04.95	Poland v Israel	4-3
26.04.95	France v Slovakia	4-0
26.04.95	Azerbaijan v Romania	1-4
07.06.95	Poland v Slovakia	5-0
07.06.95	Romania v Israel	2-1
16.08.95	France v Poland	1-1
16.08.95	Azerbaijan v Slovakia	0-1
06.09.95	France v Azerbaijan	10-0
06.09.95	Slovakia v Israel	1-0
06.09.95	Poland v Romania	0-0
11.10.95	Romania v France	
11.10.95	Israel v Azerbaijan	
11.10.95	Slovakia v Poland	
15.11.95	Slovakia v Romania	
15.11.95	Azerbaijan v Poland	
15.11.95	France v Israel	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	8	5	3	0	15	5	18
France	8	3	5	0	17	1	14
Poland	8	3	3	2	13	8	12
Slovakia	8	3	2	3	10	15	11
Israel	8	2	3	3	11	11	9
Azerbaijan	8	0	0	8	2	27	0

GROUP 2

07.09.94	Cyprus v Spain	1-2
07.09.94	Macedonia v Denmark	1-1
07.09.94	Belgium v Armenia	2-0
08.10.94	Armenia v Cyprus	0-0
12.10.94	Denmark v Belgium	3-1
12.10.94	Macedonia v Spain	0-2
16.11.94	Belgium v Macedonia	1-1
16.11.94	Spain v Denmark	3-0
16.11.94	Cyprus v Armenia	2-0
17.12.94	Belgium v Spain	1-4
17.12.94	Macedonia v Cyprus	3-0
29.03.95	Spain v Belgium	1-1
29.03.95	Cyprus v Denmark	1-1
26.04.95	Armenia v Spain	0-2
26.04.95	Belgium v Cyprus	2-0
26.04.95	Denmark v Macedonia	1-0
10.05.95	Armenia v Macedonia	2-2
07.06.95	Denmark v Cyprus	4-0
07.06.95	Macedonia v Belgium	0-5
07.06.95	Spain v Armenia	1-0
16.08.95	Armenia v Denmark	0-2
06.09.95	Belgium v Denmark	1-3
06.09.95	Spain v Cyprus	6-0
06.09.95	Macedonia v Armenia	1-2
07.10.95	Armenia v Belgium	
11.10.95	Denmark v Spain	
11.10.95	Cyprus v Macedonia	
15.11.95	Spain v Macedonia	
15.11.95	Cyprus v Belgium	
15.11.95	Denmark v Armenia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	8	7	1	0	21	3	22
Denmark	8	5	2	1	15	7	17
Belgium	8	3	2	3	14	12	11
Macedonia	8	1	3	4	8	14	6
Armenia	8	1	2	5	4	12	5
Cyprus	8	1	2	5	4	18	5

GROUP 3

07.09.94	Iceland v Sweden	0-1
07.09.94	Hungary v Turkey	2-2
12.10.94	Turkey v Iceland	5-0
12.10.94	Switzerland v Sweden	4-2
16.11.94	Switzerland v Iceland	1-0
16.11.94	Sweden v Hungary	2-0
14.12.94	Turkey v Switzerland	1-2
29.03.95	Turkey v Sweden	2-1
29.03.95	Hungary v Switzerland	2-2
26.04.95	Hungary v Sweden	1-0
26.04.95	Switzerland v Turkey	1-2
01.06.95	Sweden v Iceland	1-1
11.06.95	Iceland v Hungary	2-1
16.08.95	Iceland v Switzerland	0-2
06.09.95	Sweden v Switzerland	0-0
06.09.95	Turkey v Hungary	2-0
11.10.95	Switzerland v Hungary	
11.10.95	Iceland v Turkey	
11.11.95	Hungary v Iceland	
15.11.95	Sweden v Turkey	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	7	4	2	1	12	7	14
Turkey	6	4	1	1	14	6	13
Sweden	7	2	2	3	7	8	8
Hungary	6	1	2	3	6	10	5
Iceland	6	1	1	4	3	11	4

GROUP 4

04.09.94	Estonia v Croatia	0-2
07.09.94	Slovenia v Italy	1-1
07.09.94	Ukraine v Lithuania	0-2
08.10.94	Estonia v Italy	0-2
09.10.94	Croatia v Lithuania	2-0
12.10.94	Ukraine v Slovenia	0-0
13.11.94	Ukraine v Estonia	3-0
16.11.94	Slovenia v Lithuania	1-2
16.11.94	Italy v Croatia	1-2
25.03.95	Italy v Estonia	4-1
25.03.95	Croatia v Ukraine	4-0
29.03.95	Slovenia v Estonia	3-0
29.03.95	Ukraine v Italy	0-2
29.03.95	Lithuania v Croatia	0-0
26.04.95	Lithuania v Italy	0-1
26.04.95	Croatia v Slovenia	2-0
26.04.95	Estonia v Ukraine	0-1
07.06.95	Lithuania v Slovenia	2-1
11.06.95	Estonia v Slovenia	1-3
11.06.95	Ukraine v Croatia	1-0
16.08.95	Estonia v Lithuania	0-1
03.09.95	Croatia v Estonia	7-1
06.09.95	Italy v Slovenia	1-0
06.09.95	Lithuania v Ukraine	1-3
08.10.95	Croatia v Italy	
11.10.95	Slovenia v Ukraine	
11.10.95	Lithuania v Estonia	
11.11.95	Italy v Ukraine	
15.11.95	Slovenia v Croatia	
15.11.95	Italy v Lithuania	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	8	6	1	1	19	3	19
Italy	7	5	1	1	12	4	16
Lithuania	8	4	1	3	8	8	13
Ukraine	8	4	1	3	8	9	13
Slovenia	8	2	2	4	9	9	8
Estonia	9	0	0	9	2	26	0

GROUP 5

06.09.94	Czech Rep v Malta	6-1
07.09.94	Luxembourg v Holland	0-4
07.09.94	Norway v Byelorussia	1-0
12.10.94	Malta v Czech Rep	0-0
12.10.94	Byelorussia v Lux'bourg	2-0
12.10.94	Norway v Holland	1-1
16.11.94	Byelorussia v Norway	0-4
16.11.94	Holland v Czech Rep	0-0
14.12.94	Malta v Norway	0-1
14.12.94	Holland v Luxembourg	5-0
22.02.95	Malta v Luxembourg	0-1
29.03.95	Czech Rep v Byelorussia	4-2
29.03.95	Luxembourg v Norway	0-2
29.03.95	Holland v Malta	4-0
26.04.95	Byelorussia v Malta	1-1
26.04.95	Czech Rep v Holland	3-1
26.04.95	Norway v Luxembourg	5-0
07.06.95	Byelorussia v Holland	1-0
07.06.95	Lux'bourg v Czech Rep	1-0
07.06.95	Norway v Malta	2-0
16.08.95	Norway v Czech Rep	1-1
06.09.95	Czech Rep v Norway	2-0
06.09.95	Luxembourg v Malta	1-0
06.09.95	Holland v Byelorussia	1-0
07.10.95	Byelorussia v Czech Rep	
11.10.95	Malta v Holland	
11.10.95	Luxembourg v Byelorussia	
12.11.95	Malta v Byelorussia	
15.11.95	Czech Rep v Luxembourg	
15.11.95	Holland v Norway	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	9	6	2	1	17	3	20
Czech Rep	8	4	3	1	16	6	15
Holland	8	4	2	2	16	5	14
Luxembourg	8	3	0	5	3	18	9
Byelorussia	7	2	1	4	6	11	7
Malta	8	0	2	6	2	16	2

GROUP 6

20.04.94	N. Ireland v Liecht'stein	4-[illegible]
07.09.94	Liechtenstein v Austria	0-[illegible]
07.09.94	N. Ireland v Portugal	1-2
07.09.94	Latvia v Rep. Ireland	0-3
09.10.94	Latvia v Portugal	1-3
12.10.94	Austria v N. Ireland	1-2
12.10.94	Rep Ireland v Lcht'stein	4-[illegible]
13.11.94	Portugal v Austria	1-[illegible]
15.11.94	Liechtenstein v Latvia	0-[illegible]
16.11.94	N. Ireland v Rep. Ireland	0-[illegible]
18.12.94	Portugal v Liechtenstein	8-[illegible]
29.03.95	Rep. Ireland v N. Ireland	1-[illegible]
29.03.95	Austria v Latvia	5-[illegible]
26.04.95	Rep. Ireland v Portugal	1-[illegible]
26.04.95	Latvia v N. Ireland	0-[illegible]
26.04.95	Austria v Liechtenstein	7-[illegible]
03.06.95	Portugal v Latvia	3-[illegible]
03.06.95	Lcht'stein v Rep. Ireland	0-[illegible]
07.06.95	N. Ireland v Latvia	1-[illegible]
11.06.95	Rep. Ireland v Austria	1-[illegible]
15.08.95	Liechtenstein v Portugal	0-[illegible]
16.08.95	Latvia v Austria	3-[illegible]
03.09.95	Portugal v N. Ireland	1-[illegible]
06.09.95	Austria v Rep. Ireland	3-[illegible]
06.09.95	Latvia v Liechtenstein	1-[illegible]
11.10.95	Rep. Ireland v Latvia	
11.10.95	Austria v Portugal	
11.10.95	Liechtenstein v N. Ireland	
15.11.95	Portugal v Rep. Ireland	
15.11.95	N. Ireland v Austria	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	8	6	1	1	24	6	19
Austria	8	5	0	3	25	8	15
Rep. Ireland	8	4	2	2	15	7	14
Latvia	9	4	0	5	10	18	12
North Ireland	8	3	2	3	11	12	11
Liechtenstein	9	0	1	8	1	36	1

GROUP 7

07.09.94	Wales v Albania	2-[illegible]
07.09.94	Georgia v Moldova	0-[illegible]
12.10.94	Moldova v Wales	3-[illegible]
12.10.94	Bulgaria v Georgia	2-[illegible]
16.11.94	Albania v Germany	1-[illegible]
16.11.94	Georgia v Wales	5-[illegible]
16.11.94	Bulgaria v Moldova	4-[illegible]
14.12.94	Wales v Bulgaria	0-[illegible]
14.12.94	Moldova v Germany	0-[illegible]
14.12.94	Albania v Georgia	0-[illegible]
18.12.94	Germany v Albania	2-[illegible]
29.03.95	Georgia v Germany	0-[illegible]
29.03.95	Bulgaria v Wales	3-[illegible]
29.03.95	Albania v Moldova	3-[illegible]
26.04.95	Germany v Wales	1-[illegible]
26.04.95	Moldova v Bulgaria	0-[illegible]
26.04.95	Georgia v Albania	2-[illegible]
07.06.95	Bulgaria v Germany	3-[illegible]
07.06.95	Wales v Georgia	0-[illegible]
07.06.95	Moldova v Albania	2-[illegible]
06.09.95	Germany v Georgia	4-[illegible]
06.09.95	Wales v Moldova	1-[illegible]
06.09.95	Albania v Bulgaria	1-[illegible]
07.10.95	Bulgaria v Albania	
08.10.95	Germany v Moldova	
11.10.95	Wales v Germany	
11.10.95	Georgia v Bulgaria	
15.11.95	Germany v Bulgaria	
15.11.95	Albania v Wales	
15.11.95	Moldova v Georgia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	7	6	1	0	19	5	19
Germany	7	5	1	1	16	7	16
Georgia	8	4	0	4	10	9	12
Albania	8	2	1	5	9	12	7
Wales	8	2	1	5	7	16	7
Moldova	8	2	0	6	7	19	6

GROUP 8

07.09.94	Finland v Scotland	0-2
07.09.94	Faroe Islands v Greece	1-5
12.10.94	Scotland v Faroes	5-1
12.10.94	Greece v Finland	4-0
12.10.94	Russia v San Marino	4-0
16.11.94	Scotland v Russia	1-1
16.11.94	Greece v San Marino	2-0
16.11.94	Finland v Faroe Islands	5-0
14.12.94	Finland v San Marino	4-1
18.12.94	Greece v Scotland	1-0
29.03.94	Russia v Scotland	0-0
29.03.95	San Marino v Finland	0-2
26.04.95	San Marino v Scotland	0-2
26.04.95	Greece v Russia	0-3
26.04.95	Faroe Islands v Finland	0-4
06.05.95	Russia v Faroe Islands	3-0
25.05.95	Faroes v San Marino	3-0
07.06.95	Faroe s v Scotland	0-2
07.06.95	San Marino v Russia	0-7
11.06.95	Finland v Greece	2-1
16.08.95	Scotland v Greece	1-0
16.08.95	Finland v Russia	0-6
06.09.95	Scotland v Finland	1-0
06.09.95	Faroe Islands v Russia	2-5
06.09.95	San Marino v Greece	0-4
11.10.95	Russia v Greece	
11.10.95	San Marino v Faroes	
15.11.95	Scotland v San Marino	
15.11.95	Russia v Finland	
15.11.95	Greece v Faroe Islands	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Russia	8	6	2	0	29	3	20
Scotland	9	6	2	1	14	3	20
Greece	8	5	0	3	17	7	15
Finland	9	5	0	4	17	15	15
Faroes	8	1	0	7	7	29	3
San Marino	8	0	0	8	1	28	0

EURO '96 QUALIFIERS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Rijeka - Euro Chp gp 4

CROATIA 7 (Mladenovic 3, Suker 19, 58, 90, Boksic 29, Boban 42, Stimac 81)
ESTONIA 1 (Reim 17)
HT: 4-1. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Huzu (Rom)
Croatia: Ladic (Mrmic 30) - M Mladenovic, Jarni, Stimac (Turkovic 82), Jerkan, Bilic (Pralija 75), Stanic, Prosinecki, Suker, Boban, Boksic.
Estonia: Poom - Lemsalu, Kirs, T Kalaste, Kiisman, Lindmaa (Olumets 77) - R Kalaste (Lell 41), Lepa (Linnumae 59), Kristal, Reim, Rajala.

Oporto - Euro Chp gp 6

PORTUGAL 1 (Domingos 47)
N IRELAND 1 (Hughes 66)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Harrel (Fra).
Portugal: Vitor Baia - Secretario, Jorge Costa (Rui Barros 73), Oceano, Couto, Paulo Sousa, Figo, Paulinho Santos, Domingos, Rui Costa (Paulo Alves 82), Folha.
N Ireland: Fettis - Morrow, Hunter, Hill, Worthington, Gillespie, Lomas, Magilton (Rowland 80), Lennon, Hughes, Dowie (Gray 77).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

Tirana - Euro Chp gp 7

ALBANIA 1 (Rraklli 16)
BULGARIA 1 (Stoichkov 8)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Agius (Mal)
Albania: Strakosha - Abazi, Shulku, Xhumba, Vata, Lekbello, Kushta, Bellai, Kola (Shehu 65; Pano 90), Rraklli, Bozgo (Demollari 86).
Bulgaria: Mihailov - Kremenliev, Ivanov, Tsvetanov, Hubchev, Borimirov, Kostadinov, Stoichkov, Penev (Sirakov 75), Balakov, Lechkov (Chomakov 75).

Vienna - Euro Chp gp 6

AUSTRIA 3 (Stoger 3, 64, 77)
REP IRELAND 1 (McGrath 74)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 24,000. **Ref:** A Caker (Tur).
Austria: Konsel - Markus Schopp, Schottel, Pfeffer, Furstaller, Marasek, Pfeifenberger, Kuhbauer, Polster (Cerny 78), Herzog, Stoger.
Rep Ireland: A Kelly - G Kelly, Irwin, Kernaghan, McGrath, Keane, Townsend, Houghton (Cascarino 68), Quinn, Sheridan, Kennedy.

Brussels - Euro Chp gp 2

BELGIUM 1 (Grun 25)
DENMARK 3 (M Laudrup 19, Beck 21, Vilfort 65)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Zhuk (Bye)
Belgium: Bodart - Genaux, Grun, Medved, Smidts (Renier 80), Staelens (Nilis 14), Karagiannis, Scifo, Schepens (Foguenne 56), De Bilde, Degryse.
Denmark: Schmeichel - J Hoegh, Risager, Rieper, Laursen, B Steen Nielsen, Thomsen, Vilfort, M Laudrup (Schjonberg 90), Beck (P Rasmussen 70), B Laudrup (E Bo Andersen 80).

Prague - Euro Chp gp 5

CZECH REPUBLIC 2 (Skuhravy 6 pen, Drulak 87)
NORWAY 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 19,522. **Ref:** Rothlisberger (Swi)
Czech Rep: Kouba - Kadlec, Repka, Suchoparek, Latal, Nemecek, Frydek (Poborsky 71), Nedved, Nemec, P Kuka (Drulak 17), Skuhravy (Lokvenc 79)
Norway: Thorstvedt - Loeken, E Johnsen, R Johnsen, Berg, Bohinen (Rekdahl 75), Flo, Solbakken, Leonhardsen, Jakobsen, Fjortoft (Brattbakk 69).

Toftir - Euro Chp gp 8

FAROE ISLANDS 2 (H Jarnskor 12, T Jonsson 55)
RUSSIA 5 (Mostovoi 10, Kiriakov 60, Kolivanov 65, Tsimbalar 84, Shalimov 87)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 1,852. **Ref:** Snoddy (NI)
Faroes: Knudsen - O Johannesen, T E Hansen (A Jonsen 81), J Rasmussen, J K Hansen, O Hansen, K Morkore, J Johnsson, J A Muller (J E Rasmussen 15), T Jonsson, H Jarnskor.
Russia: Cherchesov - Kovtoun, Nikiforov, Tsimbalar, Shalimov, Kantchelskis (Bestchastnikh 57), Onopko, Kulkov (Mamedov 64), Mostovoi, Radchenko (Kiriakov 46), Kolivanov.

Auxerre - Euro Chp gp 1

FRANCE 10 (Desailly 13, Djorkaeff 18, 79, Guerin 33, Pedros 49, Leboeuf 53, 70, Dugarry 66, Zidane 68, Cocard 90)
AZERBAIJAN 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Micaleff (Mal)
France: Lama - Angloma (Thuram 56), Lizarazu, Desailly, Leboeuf, Djorkaeff, Deschamps, Guerin, Dugarry (Cocard 68), Zidane, Pedros (Ginola 65).
Azerbaijan: Gasanov (Sadikov 36) - Asadov, Getman, Akhmedov, Agaev, Abushev, Guseinov, Dlniev, Kadirov (M Khuseinov 75), Kurbanov (Alekperov 46), Lichkin.

Nuremberg - Euro Chp gp 7

GERMANY 4 (Moller 39, Ziege 57, Kirsten 62, Babbel 72)
GEORGIA 1 (Ketsbaya 28)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** McCluskey (Sco)
Germany: Kahn - Helmer, Kohler, Strunz, Babbel, Freund, Ziege, Hassler, Moller, Klinsmann, Kirsten.
Georgia: Devadze - Kudinov, Gudzhabidze, Shliya, Chikhradze, Gogichaishvili (A Arveladze 67), Nemzadze, Kinkladze, Ketsbaya, S Arveladze, Tavelashvili (Kilasonia 46).

Rotterdam - Euro Chp gp 5

HOLLAND 1 (Mulder 83)
BYELORUSSIA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 17,000. **Ref:** Sedlacek (Aut)
Holland: Van der Sar - Reiziger (Trustfull 71), Blind, F de Boer, Winter, De Kock, Richard Witschge (Numan 86), Overmars, R de Boer, Bergkamp, Eijkelkamp (Mulder 62).
Byelorussia: Satsunkevich - Gurenko, Dovnar, Rodnenok, Talkov, Zigmantovich, Gerasimets, Zhuravel (Vekhtev 89), Romashekenko (Vergeitchik 85), Yusipets (Kashintsev 67), Katshouro.

Udine - Euro Chp gp 4

ITALY 1 (Ravanelli 13)
SLOVENIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Ladislav Godosi (Slovak)
Italy: Peruzzi - Ferrara, Tacchinardi, Costacurta, Carboni, Di Livio, Albertini, Di Matteo, Del Piero (Signori 46), Zola (R Baggio 60), Ravanelli (D Baggio 80).
Slovenia: Zupan - Galic, Poljsak, Milanic, Jermanis, Ceh, Kokol (Binkovski 46), Cvikl (Valentincic 79), Jahovic (Becaj 57), Udovic, Gliha.

Riga - Euro Chp gp 6

LATVIA 1 (A Zeiberlins 83)
LIECHTENSTEIN 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 3,800. **Ref:** Henning (Nor).
Latvia: Karavajevs - Troickis, Zemlinskijs, Sevlakovs, Bleidelis (Bulders 31), Ivanovs, Zeiberlins, Rimkus, Babicevs (Karachausks 74), Monjaks.
Liechtenstein: Heeb - J Frick, Zech, Oehri (H Bicker 64), Hasler, Telser, Stocker (Klaunzer 89), Hilti, Schadler, M Frick, Marxer (D Frick 74).

Vilnius - Euro Chp gp 4

LITHUANIA 1 (Maciulevicius 16)
UKRAINE 3 (Huseinov 66, 71, Gusin 84)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 11,500. **Ref:** Short (Rep Ire)
Lithuania: Stauce - Suika, Vainoras, Ziukas, Tereskinas (Preiksaitis 68) - Stonkus, Sukristovas, Maciulevicius, Skarbalius (Zvingilas 77) - Ivanauskas, Slekys.
Ukraine: Souslov - Luzhni, Golovko, Skripnik, Bezhenar - Zabchenko (Pohlebaiev 66), Gorili, Kalivintsev, Orbu - Khoussin, Huseinov (Yevtouchok 87).

Luxembourg - Euro Chp gp 5

LUXEMBOURG 1 (Holtz 44)
MALTA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 4,700. **Ref:** Dubinskas (Lit)
Luxembourg: Koch - Vanek, Deville, Birsens, Strasser - Saibene, Hellers, Weis - Holz (Cardoni 85), Langers, Grof (Theis 68).
Malta: Cluett - Della (Agius 28; Gregory 89), Buhagiar, Galea, Woods - Buttiogieg, Busuttil, Saliba, Sant-Fournier - Laferla, Carabott.

Skopje - Euro Chp gp 2

MACEDONIA 1 (Micevski 10)
ARMENIA 2 (Razmik 61, Armen 78)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Pereira (Por)
Macedonia: Celeski - Nikolovski, Stojkovski, Jovanovski, Markovski - Babunski, Serakimovski, Memedi, Savevski - Hrstov, Micevski.
Armenia: A Petrossian - Gspeyan, A Khatchatrian, Vartanian, Ovanessian - Stepanian, H Petrossian, Mikhtarian, Avedissian - Grigorian, Shakhgeidian.

Zabrze - Euro Chp gp 1

POLAND 0
ROMANIA 0
Att: 19,000. **Ref:** Gallagher (Eng)
Poland: Wozniak - Jaskulski, Zielinski, Kozminski, Waldoch, Bednarz (Bukalski 62), Swierczewski, Iwan (Czerwiec 76), Juskowiak, Kosecki, Wieszczycki (Podbrozny 67).
Romania: Stelea - Petrescu, Prodan, Mihali, Lupescu, Popescu, Lacatus (I Timofte II 85), Sabau, Vladoiu (Panduru 64), Munteanu (Galca 75), Selymes.

Serravalle - Euro Chp gp 8

SAN MARINO 0
GREECE 4 (Tsalouhidis 5, G Georgiadis 31, Alexandris 61, Donis 81)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 1,000. **Ref:** Mitrovic (Sloven)
San Marino: R Muccioli - Gobbi, Gennari, M Mazza, Matteoni, Guerra, P Manzaroli (Peverani 89), Della Valle, Bacciocchi, M Mularoni (Montagna 79), Francini (Canti 76).
Greece: Atmatzidis - Apostolakis, Karataidis, Ouzounidis, Dabitzas, Tsalouhidis, Zagorakis, Nikolaidis (Alexandris 46), Mahlas (Batista 77), G H Georgiadis (Yorgatos 57), Donis.

Glasgow - Euro Chp gp 8

SCOTLAND 1 (Booth 10)
FINLAND 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,505. **Ref:** V Melnichuk (Ukr).
Scotland: Leighton - McKimmie (B McKinlay 88), Boyd, Calderwood, Hendry, T McKinlay, Spencer (McCoist 74), McLaren, Booth (Jackson 80), McAllister, Collins.
Finland: Laukkanen - Rissanen, Kanerva, Holmgren, Suominen, Lindberg, Nieminen (Gronlund 62), Myyry, Hjelm, Litmanen, Jarvinen.

Kosice - Euro Chp gp 1

SLOVAKIA 1 (Jancula 54)
ISRAEL 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Sandra (Bel)
Slovakia: Molnar - Tittel, Juriga, Karhan, Balis (Kostka 90), Pecko, Kinder, Simon (Faktor 82), Moravcik, Tibor Jancula (Rusnak 65), Peter Dubovsky.
Israel: Shelah - Harazi, Hazan, Glam, Banin, Brumer, Berkowitz (Drieks 65), Klinger (Rosenthal 46), Revivo, Hizrahi.

Granada - Euro Chp gp 2

SPAIN 6 (Guerrero 45, Alfonso 51, Pizzi 75, 80, Hierro 78, Caminero 83)
CYPRUS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 16,000. **Ref:** Jol (Hol)
Spain: Zubizarreta - Belsue, Agustin Arranzabal, Alkorta, Nadal, Hierro, Luis Enrique, Guerrero (Manjarin 80), Alfonso (Pizzi 52), Caminero, Amavisca (Francisco 75).
Cyprus: N Panayiotou - Panayi, N Charalambous, Pittas, Christodoulou, Andoniou (Kalotheou 81), Ashiotis, Hadjilucas (Ioannou 75), Gogic, Y Ioannou, Malekos (Sotiriou 57).

Gothenburg - Euro Chp gp 3

SWEDEN 0
SWITZERLAND 0
Att: 18,500. **Ref:** Ceccarini (Ita)
Sweden: Andersson - Kamark, P Andersson, Bjorklund, M Nilsson - Alexandersson, Thern, Schwarz (Erlingmark 89), Brolin (Larsson 77) - K Andersson, Dahlin.
Switzerland: Pascolo - Hottiger, Henchoz, Geiger, Quentin - Ohrel, Sforza, Fournier, A Sutter (Herr 46) - Knup, Turkyilmaz (Grassi 90).

Istanbul - Euro Chp gp 3

TURKEY 2 (Hakan 9, 31)
HUNGARY 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Krondl (Cze), sub Iblich (61min).
Turkey: Rustu - Recep, Alpay, Ogun - Osman, Oguz, Tugay, Sergen (Tolunay 46), Abdullah - Hakan (Bulent Korkmaz 88), Hami (Bulent Uygun 85).
Hungary: Petry - Lipcsei, Telek, G Meszoly - I Kozma, Farkashazy, Arany, Illes (Klausz 46), Halmai, N Nagy (Salloi 46) - Kiprich.

Cardiff - Euro Chp gp 7

WALES 1 (Speed 55)
MOLDOVA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** G Orrason (Ice).
Wales: Southall - Bowen, Coleman, Williams, Symons, Pembridge, Horne, Nogan (Phillips 46), Rush (Hartson 69), Hughes, Speed.
Moldova: Ivanov - Fistican*, Testimitanu, Culibaba, Rebeja (Gavriliuc 84), Stroenko, Oprea, Belous, Nani (Suharev 76), Cibotari, Clescento.
** = Fistican sent off, 90min.*

A Cottage worth keeping

FULHAM'S suffering drags on. Just as it seemed that they were in sight of permission to build flats round Craven Cottage and keep football there, the rug was pulled from under them.

Although council permission had been obtained for the development, Environment Secretary John Gummer called in the plans for an inquiry.

This is potentially immensely damaging to Fulham. The Royal Bank of Scotland, who bought the ground after Cabra's collapse, allowed Fulham to live there rent free. But in September a £100,000 charge was triggered, and come next June the rent goes up to a massive £500,000. Which means that the delay imposed by the inquiry could have devastating consequences.

Jimmy Hill, once a Fulham inside-right, now chairman, was incensed by the behaviour of the local MP, the Conservative Matthew Carrington, who, he felt, had let Fulham down by supporting the inquiry.

When I spoke to Carrington, he insisted that the protests he received from constituents came not only from near neighbours of the Cottage, but from environmental and even ecological groups, concerned about the effect of the development on the river.

He was convinced that the inquiry would take only a short time, though there are other opinions. He also pointed out that there was a further development of flats taking place just along the Thames, which could have a negative effect on anything built by Fulham.

Certain neutral experts are not at all happy about the proposed development, which they feel is ugly, unsightly, and bound to ruin the special allure of the ground, with its 'Cottage' in which Bulwer Lytton wrote *The Last Days of Pompeii*.

Hill and company might reply to that by saying that any port in a storm will do, beggars can't be choosers, survival is the watchword, or words to that effect.

'Wheeling and dealing like mad, selling good players galore, Ernie Clay ran Fulham into the ground, sold out for a fortune and disappeared'

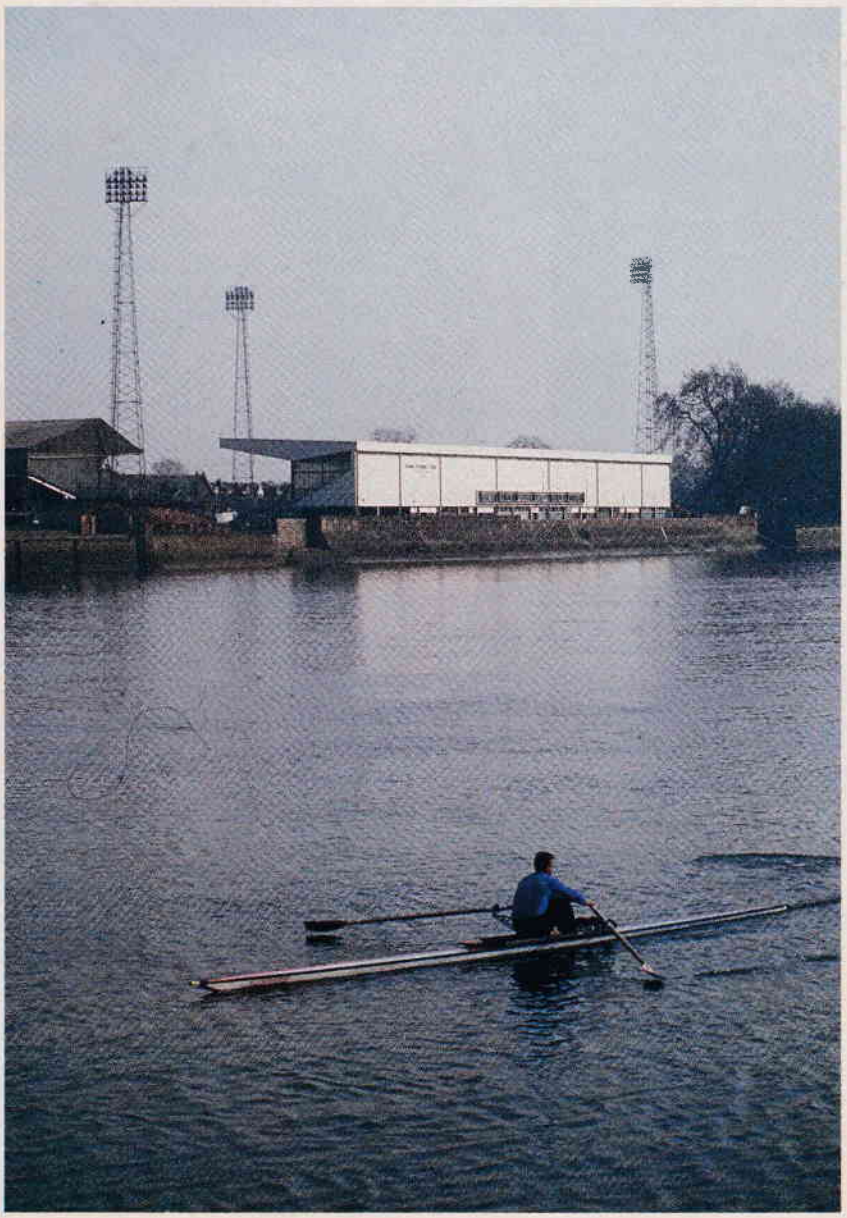
There's a further, interesting school of thought among Fulham sympathisers: that the asking price by the Royal Bank of Scotland, £7.5million for the ground, is really not so much in present terms. Only a few years ago, it was priced at around £20m.

Those of this school of thought believe that there surely must be some rich man around eager and willing to buy the stadium for such a sum. But they wonder if Hill and company would be prepared to let him.

The pass was sold, alas, long, long ago, when the landlords, the Church Commissioners, allowed that complex and controversial character, the late Ernie Clay, then club chairman, to buy the ground for a knock-down £900,000 WITH NO COVENANTS ABOUT KEEPING FOOTBALL THERE.

Wheeling and dealing like mad, selling good players galore, Clay ran the club into the ground, sold out for a fortune and disappeared.

Why the Church Commissioners and Cluttons, the agents



Under threat . . . Craven Cottage, Fulham's Thameside ground

acting for them, should have allowed Clay so favourable a deal baffles me to this day. Though perhaps it shouldn't, given the subsequent disasters of the Church Commissioners in a property market which collapsed all around them.

There is still another school of thought; that Fulham, if reduced to utter desperation, could simply refuse to pay the colossal rent and challenge the Bank of Scotland to do its worst, knowing it would have scant chance of a good return on its investment.

All very sad, and as one who has always wished the club well, has always enjoyed going there – especially before the Eric Miller stand blotted out the view of the Thames and its yachts – I hope they can survive. And that the Cottage won't be ruined.

PALERMO EARN A PRIZE

***O, tue Palermo!* is a song which Parma, the manager and players, might be tempted to sing with some feeling.**

Going across the straits to the Favorita stadium for an Italian Cup-tie, they were thrashed 3-0 by the Serie B team and thus not only humiliated but eliminated.

I was glad to see the Italian Cup, at least for its first three rounds, run on the basis of sudden death. With the exception of the immediate postwar season, when two-legged ties were in force until the semi-finals, this always has been the warp and woof of the FA Cup, the competition which generated football as we know it today, the progenitor of professionalism, the real father of the League.

Zdenek Zeman, the dour Czech coach of Lazio, spoke out against sudden death. Not only was it unfair, he said, to the bigger clubs, but it deprived the smaller clubs of revenue. In other words, if they won at home in front of a small crowd, there was no payday to come in a return in a bigger stadium against a bigger team.

All nonsense, surely, for the whole history of the FA Cup, with its giant killers, its Walsall beating Arsenal, Colchester and Peterborough beating all sorts of clubs, Hereford storming ahead against the powers that be, rings with the feats of David against Goliath.

I've always thought that the European Cup suffered from being a two-legged affair, weighting the odds against the minnows; and now in its early half-baked stages it isn't even that; it's a goddam Champions League!

Back to Palermo. For years, despite a passionate following and occasional spells in Serie A, they have been in the doldrums – wound up and then reconstituted. One president was shot dead by the Mafia.

The beauty of success resided most of all in the fact that so many of the team were local boys from the slums of Palermo, and that the manager was, is, an embattled *palermitano*.

Ignazio Arcoleo, who went to the club from not-far-off Trapani, once played for Taranto, where he fell out with the manager. Later on, attending a pop concert at the Favorita with his wife, he pulled out a blade of grass and told her, "One day I'll walk this ground and win championships."

He studied to be a naval engineer, and after failing as a player, went back to qualify.

During that game against Parma, Giacomo Tedesco, one of three footballing brothers, told the celebrated Massimo Crippa, "You don't know how to play without the ball."

"Listen who's talking!" was the reply. "A £10,000 a year phenomenon! Come to my villa and do the garden."

"Yes," said Tedesco, "but only if your wife's there!"

VINNIE GOES TO COLLEGE

HOW COME that Vinnie Jones, sent off 10 times in his career (though the last time, against Liverpool, doesn't count), finds himself praised in court by a judge, then is asked to speak first at the Oxford Union ("We're here," he said, during VE celebrations, "because they done what they done") and then at Eton?

Modishness, inverted snobbery, a fascination with Life in the Raw appear to be the motivators.

I was in court during Paul Elliott's unsuccessful action against Dean Saunders when Jones, who had had to be subpoenaed, wandered in, in striped shirt and jeans, to give reluctant evidence. It hardly seemed to reflect his original, written, sworn statement, which Elliott's lawyers found favourable to their cause.

Yet Mr Justice Drake, who had reproached Dennis Wise and Ken Aston, the ex-referee, for deviating from their written evidence, praised Jones for his.

Playing to the gallery? Trying to show he was the kind of judge who HAD heard of Paul Gascoigne?

On the football field, it's somewhat different. Give a dog a bad name . . .

I saw the Wimbledon-Liverpool game when Jones was accused of butting Stan Collymore when his head (ruled, he tells us, by his heart) had never risen above Collymore's shoulder. Video came to Jones's rescue. But not before Eton had invited him.

Red card . . . Vinnie Jones *(second left)* was sent off for an innocuous challenge on Liverpool's Collymore

A to Z OF THE WORLD'S GREAT GROUNDS

By SIMON INGLIS, author of *The Football Grounds of Great Britain* and *The Football Grounds of Europe*

ZAGREB

● WHILE only 50 miles away villages burn and the UN have to deal with such alleged niceties as kids playing football with the severed heads of conquered Serbs, life in the 55,900 capacity Dinamo Stadium, home to Croatia's national team and top club FC Croatia (formerly Dinamo), is trying to get back to normal. But while the stadium still looks comparatively swish, having been refitted with yellow seating and two modern, slab-like side stands in 1987 (for the oh-so friendly, innocent World Student Games), for sceptical neutrals, Zagreb's return to the international scene has only brought a depressing reminder of a past even more chequered than Croatia's new red and white shirts. Fascist hooligan elements (the 'Bad Blue Boys') were on the South Curve again for the recent European Championship match against Estonia – as they were when Croat-Serb violence first flared up at the stadium in May 1990 – and until they are sent packing, it is impossible to judge the stadium as anything other than a nationalists' parade ground.

ZURICH

● NOT ONLY are Grasshopper the first Swiss club to make the UEFA Champions League but they also have the best stadium, and if it doesn't seem like much, then you should see the rest! The plain North Stand dates from 1969. At the west end are uncovered blue seats (installed since the picture below was taken) with the small covered Treml Stand behind. The other two sides are the first half of a rebuilding programme begun 12 years ago at strict low cost, not only because Grasshopper, for all their success and snob appeal, pull in gates of only 7-8,000, but also because until recently the club only leased the ground. The L-shaped, two-tier stands have a steel-framed propped roof and wooden floor-boards, which makes for a great stomping atmosphere in what is otherwise a tightly enclosed ground with great views over the wooded hills where FIFA hang out. Weird floodlights – mounted on a wheel-like gantry on tall cylindrical masts – and excellent sausages at half-time too.
WORLD SOCCER rating 7 (out of 10)

● A mile south across the railway line is the Letzigrund, more famous for athletics than football (though FC Zurich play there) and for two unique stands at each end which dip down in the centre behind each goal, just where most fans prefer to be! But then how bored we crazy groundhoppers would be if it weren't for some eccentric architects and their egos.

ZARAGOSA

Name
La Romereda
Capacity
43,554
Opened
Sept 8 1957, remodelled for 1982 World Cup

● THE 1982 World Cup might have been thinly spread around a record number of 17 venues, but the tournament's legacy in terms of stadia was almost as crucial to Spain as the Taylor Report has been to the UK. La Romereda was finished off in its present, modestly efficient form with a cantilevered cover around the upper level of its rectangular-shaped two tier bowl. Since then additional sections of the lower terrace have been progressively seated, leaving a rather charming mid-level of open, but fenced-off 'palcos', like poor men's executive boxes. There's a hospital overlooking one side and a convent behind another, while amid the high rise, concrete bustle all around, four solid blue floodlight masts allow you to home in on the stadium with all the accuracy of a Nayim lob.
WORLD SOCCER rating 7 (out of 10)

Name
Stadion Hardturm
Capacity
20,040 all-seated (minus 600 seats ripped up by Ferencvaros fans in September – and that was after they had won!)
Opened
April 28 1929, remodelled 1983-86
Location In the Hardturm district, sandwiched between the River Limmat, the Zurich-Basle railway line and the N1 Motorway. FIFA headquarters are several miles south on the posh side of town, but the Hardturm is still their local.

And so from Anderlecht to Zurich, this column now heads for that big door in the stand labelled exit, with thanks to all who have written in over the past two years. Stadium buffs will be able to read more about the eight English Euro '96 venues in future editions of WORLD SOCCER, while a completely revised third edition of Simon Inglis's book The Football Grounds of Great Britain *is due out in March.*

Flashback

May 30 1979, Munich. A diving header from million pound man Trevor Francis, just before half-time in the Olympiastadion, was enough to secure victory for Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest over Malmo in the European Champions Cup Final. The two sides met again last month in the UEFA Cup first round. For Forest boss Frank Clark, a winner in Munich 16 years ago, it was a successful return to European competition – his side were 2-2 winners on away goals. It was a different story for Malmo's Robert Prytz, the midfielder who played in the Munich final and is still a regular in the Malmo side.

the new goal

football monthly from the makers of 90minutes

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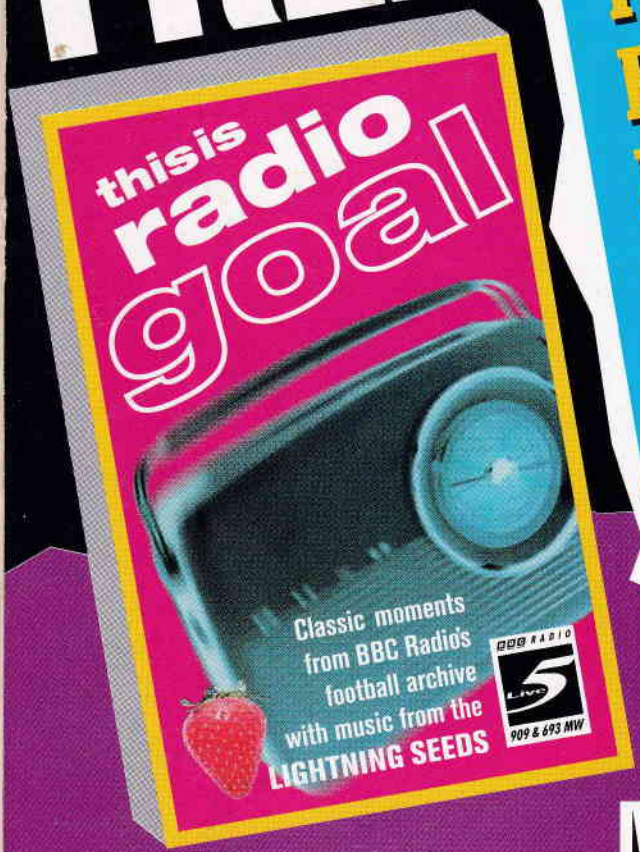

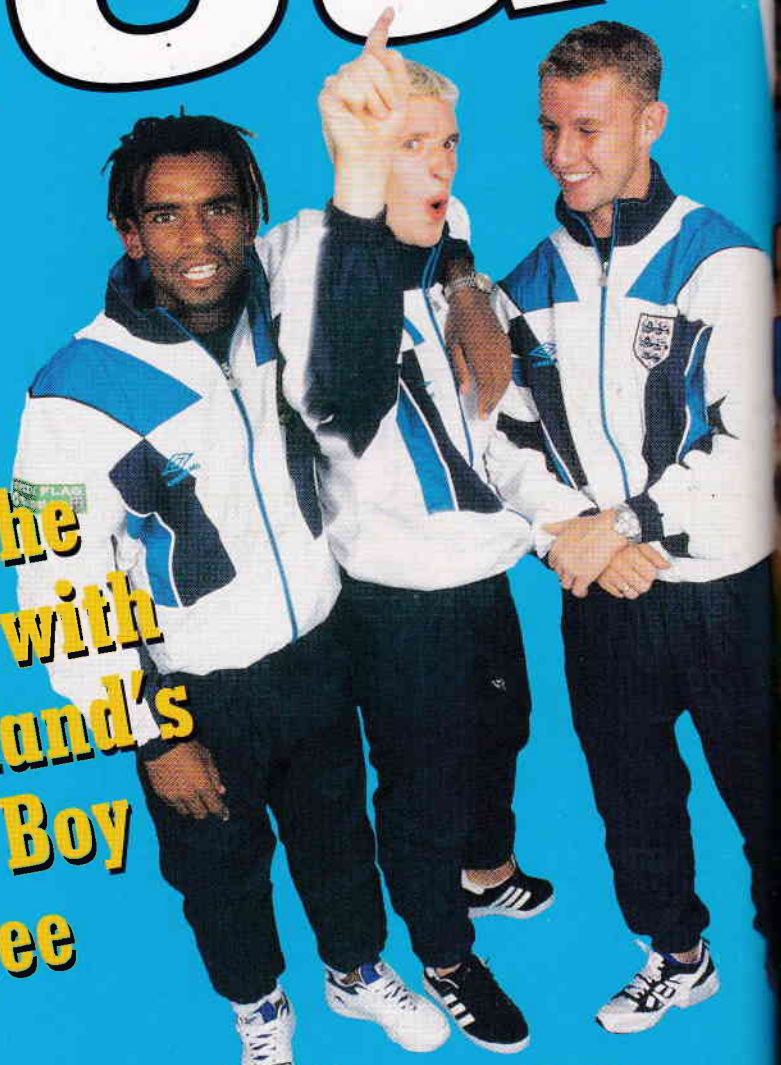

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